

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-12183)

DATE: 1/21/72

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (157-1060) (P)

SUBJECT: "THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS
EM - BN

AGENCY: 157-12183
DATE FORN: 1-25-72
HOW FORN: 15
BY: [Signature]

OO: SPRINGFIELD

Re Springfield letter to the Bureau dated 12/15/71,
with enclosures.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are ten copies
each of the following issues of "The Voice of the Black
Community":

Volume 2, Issue #77, Thursday, 12/9/71;

Volume 2, Issue #77, Thursday, 12/23/71.

Also enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of
an LHM providing an analysis of the contents of these
publications.

A review of the publications revealed no anti-
Semitic statements.

Springfield remains alert for various individuals,
organizations and activities as they are described in
periodic issues of "The Voice of the Black Community".
New cases are opened and necessary action is taken regarding
these where warranted.

EXP. PROC.

38

"ENCLOSURE ATTACHED"

REC-10 157-12183-30

25 ENCLOSURE

ST-103
4 cc 809
14 destroyed

26
12 JAN 25 1972

- ② - Bureau (157-12183) (Enc. 15) (RM)
- 4 - Springfield
 - (2 - 157-1060)
 - (1 - 157-1240)

EXT. INT. SEC.

SEE REVENUE FOR
ALLOCATION.



WCM/bji
(6)
4 JAN 28 1972

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

b6
b7c

"THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

the living standards of the workers. The article said this is reflected in both political parties of big business.

DL An article on page 24, entitled "Evers" by William H. Banks, Jr., was a biography regarding Charles Evers regarding Evers political showing in the State of Mississippi.

"THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

An article on Page 2 entitled "As I See It" was regarding the high percentage of black people in the nation's prisons, and blaming this high percentage as alleged by the article on the failure of the prison systems and white racism.

An article on Page 3 entitled "By Any Means Necessary" revealed that a Citizens Prosecutors Defense Fund Committee had been set up to aid recently indicted Illinois States Attorney Edward V. Hanrahan and thirteen other policemen. The article revealed that the "Defense Committee" contains a number of leading figures in Chicago's Labor Movement, including Louis Peick, an International Trustee of the Teamsters Union; Stephen Lamb, Business Manager of Local 13 of the Plumbers Union; and Thomas Nayder, President of the Chicago Building Trades Council, according to the article.

The article on Page 8 entitled "The Voice Endorses Five for Macon Land Junior College" contained biographical sketches of the five individuals, above mentioned, which "The Voice" endorsed for the Board of Trustees of a new Macon Land Junior College, which is scheduled to be built and operated in the Decatur area within the near future.

On Page 11 an article entitled "An Editorial: The Bussing Issue in the South" revealed one of the most important developments in the South this fall was that there was no violent outbreaks when bussing on a wide scale to achieve school segregation began in many communities. According to the article, people in the South still had not "bought" integration, and the struggle was just starting.

An article on Page 12 entitled "Illegal Aliens, Not Employees Hit By The Government" concerned the plight of illegal aliens, primarily from Mexico into the United States to work, and the methods used by the Immigration

"THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

and Naturalization Service to suppress such entry. According to the article, the factory owners and employers of the individuals, who allegedly entice cheap labor into the country, are not prosecuted, and the only individuals who suffer as a result are the individuals who actually enter the country illegally.

On Page 13 an article entitled "Hands Off Bangla Desh" revealed significant fighting has erupted inside Bangla Desh between the West Pakistani Occupation Forces and the Mukti Bahina (Bangla Desh Liberation Forces), which had been receiving material aid from India. The article took the stand that the United Nations and the United States should make no attempt to interfere in the violence at that location, because any interference would be serving to suppress the struggle for freedom on the part of citizens of Bangla Desh from West Pakistan.

An article on Page 14 entitled "Wilmington Blacks Still To Siege" stated that Wilmington, North Carolina's black community had moved into its tenth month of struggle for survival against an alliance of racist public officials and far right Vigilante groups. Another article on the same page entitled "Attacks On RNA Continue" stated in Jackson, Mississippi, local, state and federal officials are continuing their efforts to force the Republic of New Africa (RNA) out of Mississippi. The article revealed that eleven individuals arrested in the August 18, 1971, attack on RNA Headquarters are still in jail; only three having been released. It says people who come to their defense are being arrested wholesale. The article calls for an investigation of "the relationship between the FBI and the Jackson Police Department to determine whether there was a conspiracy between the organizations to murder black individuals."

An article on Page 16 entitled "Black Caucus Exposes Military Racism" revealed that a three day hearing sponsored by the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) on race

"THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

relations in the U.S. Military made it abundantly clear that the racist abuses and repression heaped upon black GI's are growing, not lessening as claimed by the Pentagon." According to the article, persons testifying before the committee revealed "the administration of justice is the most intense problem."

An article on Page 21 entitled "The Real Ruchell McGee" was a biographical sketch of Ruchell McGee, who according to the article is presently facing trial, along with [redacted] in connection with an August 7, 1970, attempted escape of three black San Quentin prisoners from the Marion County Courthouse. The article takes the stand that Ruchell McGee, and his problems, were created by white political repression of blacks. *Calif.*

An article on Page 22 entitled "Lessons Of Evers' Mississippi Defeat" revealed alleged violent acts against pole watchers for Charles Evers in a recent political race in Mississippi during voting on November 2, 1971, and alleged white racist violence and intimidation, which allegedly resulted in the defeat of Evers at the pole.

An article on Page 24 entitled "Ruling Class Uses Violence, Trickery As Mississippi Elections Approach" took the stand that Mississippi is allegedly an example of how black people in the South have kept on struggling, through years of much violence and few victories, and it is allegedly also a good case study of the tactics used against black people by federal, state and county officials. The article stated federal inaction keeps black people powerless, the state legislature in Mississippi has always engaged in "gerrymandering and redistricting", and there is white planned confusion at the county level.

The Volume II, Number 77 edition of "The Voice of the Black Community", Thursday, December 23, 1971, contained an article on Page 2 entitled "HRC Makes Proposal" was regarding a proposal made on December 20, 1971, by the

**"THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS**

Decatur Human Relations Commission of the City of Decatur in presenting its annual report to the City Council. The article took the stand that employment of blacks in Decatur seems to be the critical area.

An article on Page 3 entitled "Human Relations Director Suspicious of Trickery" was a greeting from [redacted] Negro male, Decatur, Illinois, who was a candidate in the Macon Land Junior College Board of Trustees election in Decatur. [redacted] stated that he believed the reason why he was not elected to the Board was that he had been intentionally moved out of the district for the purpose of the Board election.

b6
b7c

An article on Page 4 entitled "Elks Elect Officers, State Officers Here Sunday" revealed that Roosevelt Evans had been elected the Exaltant Ruler of the Elks Lakeview Lodge Number 1132, Decatur, Illinois.

An article on Page 5 entitled "Planning Under Way For Clinic" revealed plans are underway for the creation of a community controlled health clinic to serve innercity people in Decatur. The article said "the most important thing is that the clinic be controled by people from the black community and the poor community, not by a hospital or some do-gooder agency."

An article on Page 8 entitled "Hi Chapperall House of Soul" revealed "The House of Soul" is an adequate description for the relatively new lounge now in operation at 764 East Eldorado Street, Decatur, Illinois. This lounge is called the "The Hi Chapperall" and the officers of the lounge are all Negroes.

An article on Page 12 entitled "Vigilante Violence in North Carolina" advised that in this concluding article regarding violence in Wilmington, North Carolina, the facts

"THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

vividly point out that the dangerous divisions now plaguing Wilmington's black community largely stem from the collision of state and local officials with the forces of Vigilante violence, according to the article.

An article on Page 15 entitled "Post American Christianity" primarily downgraded the American system saying "We have become disillusioned, alienated, and angered by an American system that we regard as oppressive; a society whose values are corrupt and destructive."

An article on Page 19 entitled "AFL-CIO Convention Skirts Real Issues" took the stand that a convention held by AFL-CIO on November 18 through November 22, 1971, at Bal Harbour, Florida, did nothing to aid the tens of thousands of workers who are presently on strike in the United States, and did not adequately deal with the needs of black workers facing the problems of war, racism, unemployment, and inflation.

151 - 12183 - 30



ENCLOSURE

157-12183-30

AND A CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM

STORY PAGE 3



THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY



VOL. II, NO. 77

1028 W. Forest, Decatur, Ill.

Thursday, December 23, 1971

Single Copy 15¢



BROTHER JESUS

**Why do you deny Me? Why did you replace me with
Santa Claus ? He will only be with you a short time.
I will be with you through Eternity.**

157-1181-251

By Horace G. Livingston Jr.

AS I SEE IT



Christmas time is a fun time. It is a time that brings screams of joy from the very young as they examine the gaily wrapped packages under the Christmas tree. It brings looks of pleasure and admiration to the faces of the teenager trying on the latest fashion that will soon be out of style again. Last but not least, Mom and Dad, tired, broke, but happy. For this is an occasion that has brought the entire family together again. Some away at school, some with their own family many miles away. But Christmas is the time to go home. Christmas brings us home quicker than anything else but death.

Is it bazaar to think of death amidst this season of festivity. I think not. I don't think we think enough of death and its implications.

Can we truly honor the birth of a Christ Child though he was born yet yet forget that he died that we might be free of sin?

Can a society such as this continue to deprive its fellow man, exploit the impoverished and dehumanized it minorities knowing that soon they have an appointment with the death angel and that he will escort you to the judgement bar and your soul will reap its just reward.

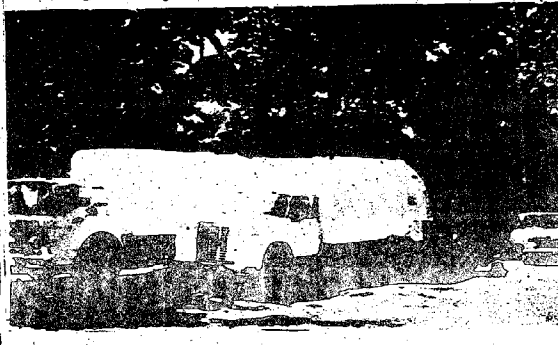
In many instances death comes to black people uselessly and needlessly. We have died on the battle field of every war this nation has ever fought but have reaped none of the rewards. Black babies are dying by the thousands because a greedy nation would deprive them of proper nourishment for their bodies.

If we as a people are willing to die to promote this evil society, we should certainly be willing to face death to make it pay, its debt to us. If it isn't worth dying for then perhaps we don't deserve to be free. In most instances the spirit of the black man is dead long before the physical body ceases to function.

RUBEN MURRELL

Garbage Disposal Service

963-2469



HRC MAKES PROPOSAL

Monday, December 20, 1971, the Human Relations Commission of the City of Decatur presented its annual report to the city council. Following the presentation of the report, a representative from the commission presented the recommendation that the city council put into action an amendment to the present Fair Employment Ordinance of Decatur and to put into effect a new ordinance, also having concern with fair employment.



WILLIAM OLLIVER HRC

Following are important excerpts from the commission's annual report.

"Our emphasis this year has been on getting more citizens involved in our programs to assist the Commission in carrying out its tasks."

Another area where the Commission has utilized citizen participation with very positive results is in the area of police-community relations. We did not have any major racial conflicts this past summer due mainly to the work of this committee, along with the Police Department.

In the areas of housing, employment, youth and education, progress has not been quite as dramatic but has continued to move ahead.

"Employment" Employment appears to be the critical area. Blacks are still the last hired and the first fired. It is very difficult for them to make a dent in the seniority or promotional system; which is evidenced by the several surveys made on employment during the past two years. The Commission ran into some resistance in obtaining information from some employers. As a followup the Commission has initiated, through its employment committee, personnel departments requesting a review of their hiring, promotional and firing policies. The purpose for this is to get the employer to look at themselves and to encourage them to make whatever changes that are necessary to bring about equal opportunity in employment. We noticed that the majority of the larger employers have on paper an affirmative action program which looks good on paper. However, we can discern very little effort put forth to implement the program. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred we get an answer such as we cannot find black people who are qualified or we get the same type of response from labor and trade unions.

Police-Community Relations: The recent report made by the Committee had several recommendations to be observed or enacted by the Police Department, City or judicial entities. It will take much of our efforts this year to see that our recommendations are implemented. The Police-Community Relations Committee plan to establish a team of speakers for the purpose of bringing about better rapport between the police department and the community.

AND A CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM

Should teenagers be able to think for themselves? Well, it seems as though they are going to whether we like it or not. It is my opinion that, as adults, we should act in such a manner that your young people will be proud to emulate us instead of reject and criticize our activities.

The so-called underground newspapers that are on the scene in Decatur's elementary, junior, and senior high schools are evidence that society has and is failing young people.

A prime example of this failure is manifested in the paper being published at Woodrow Wilson Junior High School ("Why Not Stop Look and Listen"). As I read each article I noticed that these young people were addressing themselves to issues not created by them but by another generation.

We are attempting to tell the world that democracy and Americanism are synonymous, but no one here or abroad is buying this lie for the very roots of Americanism is impregnated with disalusionment and bigotry whereas democracy speaks to liberty and justice for all.

It is my impression that these young people have recognized the fallacies in "America the Beautiful" and in so recognizing, see just how ugly America is. Seeing this ugliness and not liking what they see, they seem to want to give America a face lifting and make her live up to the lies about freedom and justice that she is telling all over the world.

It is no doubt inconceivable in the minds of these young people how in a land of so much affluence, babies are dying by the thousands from malnutrition. That segments of our society are forced into sub-human existence because of lack of opportunity to participate at a proper level in this vast economy. It must be somewhat frustrating to these youngsters to be religiously oriented by parents, then watch this concept be destroyed by hypocritical parents in their actions and feelings toward fellow human beings.

I would like to thank the many people who supported me as a candidate for the Board of Trustees in the recent Maconland Jr. College election.

If we may speculate a little I would say our chances of winning a seat was very good until someone else thought so too and decided to confuse things by temporarily moving me out of the school district. Prior to this election I had voted in the past three Decatur School District #61 Board elections. No one ever questioned my eligibility to vote or raised any question about my residency.

From my observations the methods used for screening Negroes or Black people out of any meaningful political, as well as any other meaningful involvement are very good. On one hand its a good game to talk about equal opportunity for minorities but it is another kind of game to make it work or to overcome the pitfalls.

It is my contention that for Negroes or Black people in this town to gain a feeling of security of having an equal opportunity we must work toward getting Black people elected to some of the meaningful positions in the community. I think what I am attempting to say is that Black people in this community will have to learn how to work together and for each other, without expecting to get paid in money for their efforts.

Again, I would like to thank you and the news media, as well as the many supporters of our effort this past year and wish all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Progressive New Year.

Most criticism of the paper came from the Warren Boldt - WSOY talk show and was about the youngster feeling for the Flag. The article made reference to the fact that students were treated like trained rats because every morning they are expected to stand up and say words of praise to a piece of cloth. Let's face it, that's all it is -- a piece of cloth. A true democracy could sanctify the image of the flag but as yet this has not been the case. One nation under God, with liberty and justice for all. Do any of you believe this? Of course not, then why should we ask our children to participate in such a lie, especially if you are attempting to teach them honesty?

A couple of years ago an artist sent to this community a piece of art (The Flag in Chains). As a result of, persons in the community were arrested and prosecuted. All this piece of art did was portray what this society has dictated through its actions, what the true image of the flag should be. I would certainly hope that our illustrious State's Attorney will not prosecute these young people for their unwillingness to sanctify something that does not exist.

Right is right and wrong is wrong. There is no common ground or blending point where as either can become anything but what it is. The Warren Boldt show is a profound manifestation of conservatism and conservatism is just a nice way of saying, "I am a racist."

The lack of respect in which we are held throughout the world, should be telling us something. The constant passage of laws at local and state levels and constant amendments to the constitution to incompass and guarantee the rights of minority America, should tell us that something wrong is going on. Our young people see this. Would you deprive them of the right to reject this fiasco that we call the Land of the Free and address themselves to a society free of the inequities that we are now possessed with.

HUMAN RELATIONS DIRECTOR SUSPICIOUS OF TRICKERY



CHARLIE JACKSON

SUNNYSIDE SCHOOL GIVE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Students at Sunnyside School for trainable mental handicapped presented a Christmas program Friday 17th of December, for parents and friends. The program consisted of singing, dancing and merrymaking in general.

The school is located west of Decatur on Sunnyside Road. The six class rooms fall in three categories: two primary class rooms, two intermediate class rooms and two senior class rooms.

The curriculum at the school covers five general areas. They are: basic knowledge, practical skills, self help skills, body usage and communications.

One of the teachers told this reporter of some of the immediate needs of the school. She said "many of the students have speech problems so we would like to have a speech therapist at the school." Other needs listed as important were a social worker, physical Ed therapist and psychologist.

Phyllis Macko, a teacher at Sunnyside said, "As special projects, we take the children on field trips teaching them to shop and to broaden their knowledge in practical skills."

Fifteen students make up each class room and is supervised by one teacher and one teacher's aid. Lynn Roberts is the administrator serving as teacher and principal.



Christmas is happiness



Square dancing in Santa's workshop



Singing "The Twelve Days of Christmas"

ELKS ELECT OFFICERS

STATE OFFICERS HERE SUNDAY

The Elks Lakeview Lodge 1132 IBPOE elected officers the 14th of December for the year 1972. The meeting was held at the Elk Rest, 1088 1/2 South Franklin.

The newly elected officers are: Exhaultant Ruler-Roosevelt Evans; Esteem Royal Knight-Luther Minor; Esteem Lecutring Knight- Peter Jackson; Treasurer-Robert Lawrence; Financial Secretary-Edward Wells; Recording Secretary-Slayton Carman; Esquire-Eddie Long; Tillier-Ira Lake; Inner Guard-John Beasley; Chaplin-Larry Gary; Trustees-Kermit Conley, Chairman, Ed Smith, Slayton Carman, Tommy Harper, and James Hardin.



ROOSEVELT EVANS

PLANNING UNDERWAY FOR CLINIC

Plans are underway for the creation of a community-controlled health clinic to serve inner-city people in Decatur.

Spearheading this project are Miss Vernell Reed, 1428 E. Leafland, and Mrs. Darlestone Williams, 2112 N. Charles. They are working as Vista's for the Torrence Park Citizens Committee. Their goal is to see that a neighborhood clinic is established as soon as possible.

"The most important thing is that the clinic be controlled by people from the Black community and the poor community, not by a hospital or some do-gooder agency," says Miss Reed. "This is the only way we can be sure to meet the real needs of the people."

To assure this, Miss Reed and Mrs. Williams are now getting an 18-person Board of Directors together. Of these 18, 12 (two-thirds) will be named by organizations of poor people or Black people. The other six seats on the board will be filled by "medical providers" (doctors, nurses, representatives from hospitals, etc.).

Along with about six other people, Miss Reed and Mrs. Williams recently went to a three-day training session to help them plan for developing a clinic. This session, held at the Adolph Meyer Zone Center, was conducted by the Illinois State Department of Public Health. At the training session, a "working committee" was formed to help recruit the Board of Directors, and to develop a written plan.

The Board should be formed and have its first meeting early in January, according to Mrs. Williams. The board members will then begin to find out what is involved in setting up a clinic, and how to go about doing it. It is expected that the clinic will operate with doctors and nurses donating their time.

"We hope to have it open by sometime next fall," predicts Mrs. Williams, "but we've got a lot of work to do before then." What they've got to do includes: getting doctors and

nurses to donate their time, getting money to rent a building, getting equipment donated, and choosing a place.

The clinic, if established, will be first-class. "We're not going to offer services that are second-class or in any way worse than what people can get at a doctor's office," said Miss Reed. "I think we will be able to give people more attention and better services than they get in some other places."

The clinic will concentrate on giving people regular check-ups. It will not have emergency care facilities. The staff (mostly nurses, under the supervision of doctors) will "screen" patients. Those who need treatment will be seen by doctors, either at the clinic or at their own offices.

Hopefully, low-income community people will be trained to give some types of medical tests at the clinic, and to make home visits when needed. As much as possible, the clinic will be staffed by people from the community.

Importantly, the clinic will serve people from all parts of Decatur. It will not limit its services to people from any one part of town.

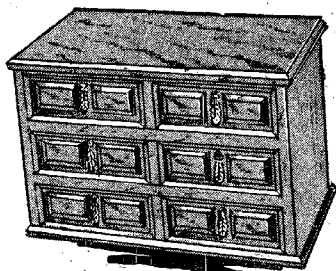
Once it is formed, the Board of Directors will determine whether or not to charge patients, and how much to charge. No matter what they decide, no one will be denied services because they can't afford to pay.

People in the Torrence Park area have been working on the idea of improved health services for about a year already. Their work began with the neighborhood health survey, done last winter by the TPCC along with O&O and the South Central Illinois Health Planning Council.

Have You Helped Some One Today



give her a
MELE jewel case
and she'll think
you're a mind-reader



MINI MEDITERREAN
\$15

Carsons proudly presents the Mele Collection... a myriad of fabulous designs, beautiful colors and unique textures. All created to give her an elegance place to keep her most precious jewels. Plushly lined and spacious designed to be functional as well as elegant.

Other Cases \$4 to \$50

JEWELRY STREET FLOOR

HI CHAPPERAL

BAND

8:45 - 12:45

★ **TWO BARS**

★ **LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

Wed. - Fri. - Sat. - Sun.

Wed. Poor Boy Nite

35¢ ALL DRINKS - 8:30 - 9:30

764 E. ELDORADO

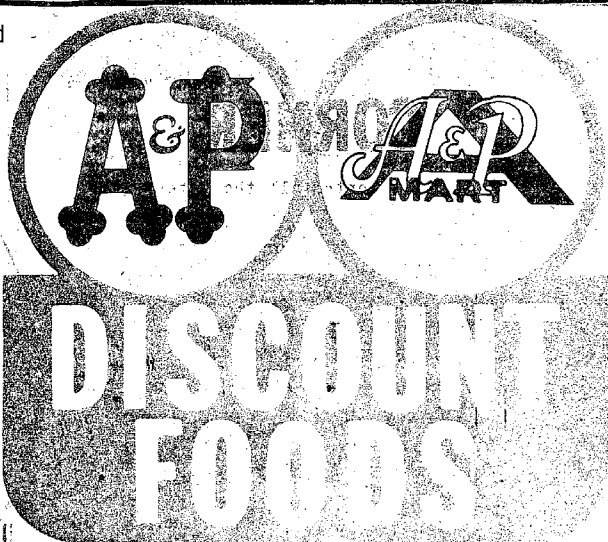
428-7874

Shop Early

Stores Closed
Christmas
Day

Mixed Fryer Parts
**BOX-O'-
CHICKEN**

Lb. **23¢**



A & P Grade "A" Oven Ready
**SELF-BASTING
TURKEY**

18 to 22
Lb. Avg. **49¢** Lb.

**Merry
Christmas**

"SUPER RIGHT" FRESH
PORK STEAKS

Lb. **59¢**

A & P FRESH
**CRANBERRY
RELISH**

14 oz.
Ctn. **39¢**

JANE PARKER WHITE
BREAD

5 16 oz. loaves **\$1.00**

4 20 oz. loaves **\$1.00**

16 to 19 Lb. Average
WHOLE HAMS
or
BUTT
PORTION
Lb. **59¢**

California
**NAVEL
ORANGES**
20 for \$1.00
Fill A Bag
At This
Price!
LARGE SIZE
10 for \$1.00

A & P GRADE "A" CANNED
VEGETABLE SALE!

5 16 oz. CANS **\$1.00**
SAVE 15¢

Select from
GOLDEN CORN, MIXED
PEAS OR CUT GREEN
BEANS!

PRICES GOOD
THRU FRI,
DEC. 24, 1971



J. P.'s SPORTS CORNER

For the past few months all the attention has been focused on football in the sports world. From high school, to Nebraska vs Oklahoma, to the Super Bowl, sports fans were in a frenzy awaiting the final status of their favorite teams. Slowly the gridiron is becoming a vacant stage, where the players will retire for one more season. Only the past season games remain: The Rose Bowl, Orange Bowl, Cotton Bowl, etc.

Taking its place, however, is a dramatic exhibition which equals, if not surpasses, the excitement generated on the football field. High school, collegiate and professional basketball is beginning to attract the attention of the sports-minded for one more season.

Even though there are pre-season ratings in the collegiate as well as the high school ranks it is much too early to decide who the power-houses will be. Not so in the professional ranks. Already there has been as many as 34 games per team played in the NBA and ABA. Already there has been enough reason to say there are two basketball dynasties in the NBA. The Los Angeles Lakers and the Milwaukee Bucks. have made opponents wonder if there is really any need to compete with them.

The Lakers are already 31-3 for the season, 25 of those victories are consecutive--an NBA record. The Bucks on the other hand, are 30-4. They have won 10 in a row to date.

The reasons for the success of these two teams are the points of this article.

Wilt Chamberlain of the Lakers is the main reason for his team's success. Although he has never played on a championship team, some authorities on the sport scene say he is probably the most dominant figure on the hardwood today. Critics of Chamberlain also say he himself is the reason for his endless second-place finishes. Temperamental and lackadaisical attitudes have been said to be his major faults. These may have been true in the past, but now it's a different story. Determined this season to stay out of "second place", Chamberlain leads the league in rebounds (20 per game), is one of the leaders in assists (never before heard of from a center), and sometimes blocks more shots than he takes. In short, as Chamberlain goes, so does the Lakers.

The other point is 7'4", third year man from UCLA. So dominant a collegiate player, his four year stay at UCLA has been described as the LEW ALCINDOR ERA. Sports fans across the nation now are beginning to wonder if his great talent hasn't given them the right to extend that description into his professional career.

Now known as Kareem Jabbar, he almost completely has taken over every statistics in the NBA. He is the leading scorer, has the best field goal percentage, is second only to Chamberlain in rebounds and his intimidation around the basket is indescribable. He scores almost at will, has defense comparable to Bill Russell and is as agile as a 6'5" forward.

Undoubtedly these two living legends must meet to determine the ruler of the Western Division of the NBA. Undoubtedly the outcome of that meeting will determine the ruler of the League. But regardless of the outcome regardless of the winner of the coveted World Basketball Crown, there will always be some doubt whether Jabbar or Chamberlain is the ruler of the courts.

TPCC VISTA

THE TORRENCE PARK CITIZENS COMMITTEE, INC. HAS OPENINGS FOR "COMMUNITY" VISTA VOLUNTEERS TO WORK WITH THE TPCC IN THE AREAS OF 1) HEALTH AND 2) HOUSING.

"COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS" ARE PEOPLE FROM DECATUR WHO ARE TRAINED BY VISTA TO WORK IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITY.

VISTA'S WORK FOR A MINIMUM OF ONE YEAR AND A MAXIMUM OF TWO YEARS. THEY RECEIVE:

*\$200 A MONTH BASE PAY

*FULL MEDICAL BENEFITS

*\$600 A MONTH BONUS AT THE END OF THE YEAR

YOU MUST BE 18 YEARS OLD OR OLDER TO QUALIFY. THERE IS NO UPPER AGE LIMIT AND THERE ARE NO EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS. THE TPCC IS LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WITH A STRONG DESIRE TO WORK, WITH POOR PEOPLE ON PROJECTS RELATING TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND COMMUNITY CONTROL.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR THIS PROGRAM SHOULD CONTACT:

FRED SPANNAUS
TPCC STAFF COORDINATOR
1250 EAST ORCHARD STREET
DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62521
PHONE: 428-1558

HI CHAPPERALL, HOUSE OF SOUL

The House of Soul is an adequate description for the relatively new lounge now in operation at 764 East Eldorado. "High Chapperall" is its name and it is owned and operated by the dynamic R. V. Clark.

High Chapperall is in the building that formerly housed Ben's Barn. It was purchased last September by R. V. Clark and under his leadership, it has been packed nightly by those in search of soulful entertainment.

The weekly rundown on entertainment includes record spins on Tuesday featuring John "The Jew" Wilder and Larry "Lujack" Rice; Thursday spinning with Harold Johnson (on Thursday from 8:30 - 9:30 p.m.-all drinks are 35¢); and on Sunday night, Leroy Lamb is spinning your favorite tunes. Admission for this lineup of stars is only 75¢.

Every Friday and Saturday night, live entertainment is featured for your dancing and listening pleasure. Admission is \$1.00.

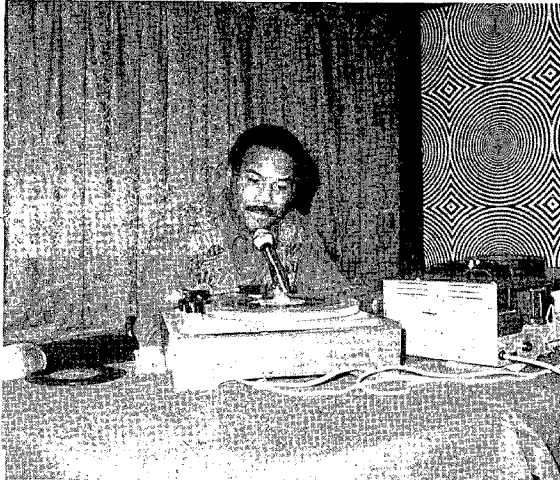
High Chapperall features two bars: one, a lounge the other on the entertainment side. Lovely waitresses are there to serve your favorite beverages.

M. R. Clark has a star-studded program lined up for your holiday entertainment, headed by KANE on Christmas night.

High Chapperall is a black owned enterprise and is fast becoming one of the most popular entertainment spots in downstate Illinois.



Willde Gary, John Jones, R. V. Clark (Bartenders)



Harold Johnson



Francea Carman

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you.

Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten.

Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure for the last days.

Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.

You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.

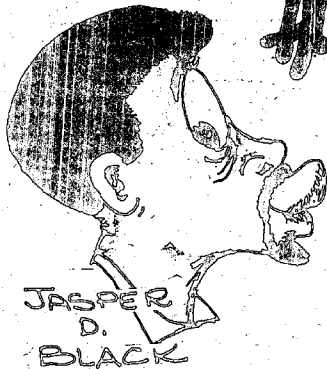
You have condemned, you have killed the righteous man...



- Gett'n down with it.

"Our Patience Is Gone"

JASPER TELLS ALL



Been wak'n up evah Chris'mus moan'n knock'n mah sef out wid all dem thangs Santi Caus dun brung me. Poe da yeah gone dey all gone, an ah don eb'm no whea'ah.

Dis yeah ah gone do sup'm diffunt. Gone place mah ordah wid da lawd. I thank maybe he gone brang me sup'm diffunt--sup'm gone stay wid me jess uh little longuh. He sed he would brang me sum luv, sum bruthahood an sum peace in mah mind. God knows ah sho need it.

what makes a city a good place to live?

Abundant jobs. Adequate housing.
Good schools. All these things are important.
And something else. Call it civic pride.
Or a sense of community. Or concern
for one's neighbors.

Without people willing to work together
to make things better for everybody,
no city can be a fit place in which to live.

Mail in Today

Mr. Editor,

Enclosed is my \$5.00 FOR a subscription
to THE VOICE

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

THE VOICE 1028 W. Forest

BLACK and BEAUTIFUL

PHOTOGENIC

Suitable for being photographed as she poses on a Los Angeles beachfront, angelic Elsie McElwee displays a curvaceous (35-24-36) figure in a jungle print bikini. She is employed as a senior typist and would like to become an actress.



THE SOLEDAD BROTHERS DESPERATELY NEED CASH!

With the trial finally about to start, the Soledad Brothers Legal Defense team is on the verge of total bankruptcy. The outcome of the trial hangs in the balance. The Soledad Brothers have been under indictment since February 1970 (more than 18 months). The massive pre-trial assaults by the prosecution (changes of venue, gag rules, harassment, endless pre-trial hearings) have almost completely exhausted every penny raised by the defense.

The trial has already begun.

Defense attorneys expect it to last 5 months. Conservative estimates put the cost of the defense (expert witnesses, special investigators, travel expenses for witness interviews from all over the state, the bare necessities for supporting three attorneys and their staff during the trial, etc.) at \$125,000. The state will be spending many times this amount in its ruthless attempt to railroad the Soledad Brothers to the gas chamber. Your money is urgently needed to prevent a legal lynching. Please send your contribution immediately to:

THE SOLEDAD BROTHERS LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

510 North Third Street
San Jose, California 95118

I enclose _____ for the cause of justice in the Soledad Case.

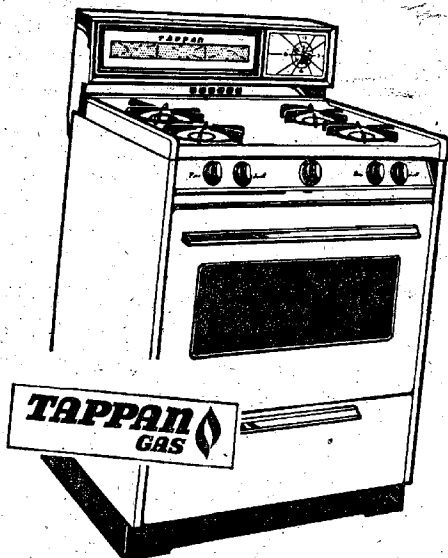
_____ Please send Soledad Brothers (70c minimum contribution)

_____ I would like to work for the Soledad Brothers in my community. Please send information.

Name _____

Address _____

LOWEST PRICES EVER
OFFERED BY YOUR LOCAL GOODYEAR STORES



TAPPAN 30" AUTOMATIC GAS RANGE

- Automatic top burner settings — "high", "high simmer" & "low"
- Hide 'N See oven window
- Lift 'N Lock top for easy cleaning
- Clock with 1 hour timer
- Choice of 4 colors

\$178⁰⁰



TAPPAN DOUBLE OVEN GAS RANGE

- Clock with four-hour timer
- Lift 'N Lock top for easy cleaning
- Vitamin-saver top burners
- Lift-off oven door for easy oven cleaning
- Available in coppertone, white, avocado or harvest gold

\$268⁰⁰



GOODYEAR SERVICE STORES

3091 N. Water St. Ph. 877-0777

411 E. William St. Ph. 429-4459

SORORITY EXCHANGE GIFTS

At a dinner held at the Ambassador Motor Inn, Tau Alpha Xi Sorority and Fraternity elected its officers for the coming year. Members also exchanged gifts during the dinner meeting.

Tau Alpha Xi is composed of black beauticians and barbers in Decatur.

The new officers are: President, Sally Abel; Vice President, Amanda Rawls; and Secretary, Nelzina Crutchfield.

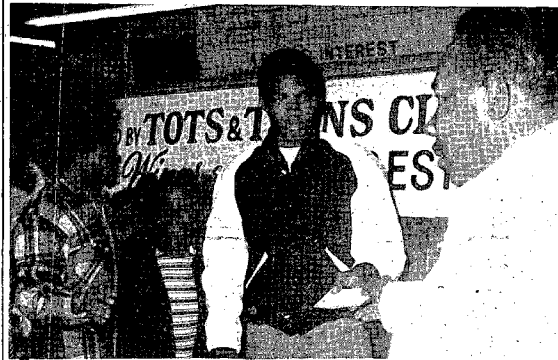


Seated: Clemmie Brown
Back Row: Tony Rawls, Christine Hood, Nelzina Crutchfield.



Ida Marshal, Wadine Robinson, Joy McCaskill
Back row: Margaret Cox, Amanda Rawls, Sally Abel.

DIVIDENDS PAID TO TEENS



JOHN YOUNG

Tot and Teens Savings & Investment Club received dividends from its sponsor, John Young of Wings N Things, Wednesday, Dec. 22nd.

The Club was formulated in July, 1970. Youngsters making purchases from Young's Wings N Things, a mobile restaurant, built up discount credits. At Christmas each year the discount on all purchases during the year are compiled and returned to the purchaser.

Mr. Young said a total of over \$200.00 will be paid out this year, the highest amount to one person being \$16.00.

Young also said that some youngsters have moved from that particular neighborhood but they are still entitled to their dividend.

Home Base for Young's Wings N Things, is the corner of Cantrell and Jackson Street.

BLACK'S Sport Shop

340 N. MAIN

Wishing You
Happy Holidays

CHECK OUR LOT FIRST
THE VOLKSWAGEN DEALER
WILL STAKE HIS REPUTATION
ON HIS USED CARS

100 Pct. Guarantee

THE VW 100 PCT. GUARANTEE doesn't mean that you pay 50 pct. and we pay 50 pct., but that we guarantee our cars 100 pct. unconditionally for 30 days or 1000 miles.

'71 VOLKSWAGEN Super Beetle, red, 1 door, radio, local 1 owner, 100 pct. guarantee.

'71 VOLKSWAGEN Beetle yellow, 2 door, local 1 owner, 100 pct. guarantee.

'70 VOLKSWAGEN 4 to choose from, all local new car trades. 100 pct. trades, 100 pct. guarantee.

'70 KARMAN GHIA convertible white and black top, 4 speed, radio, white walls, low miles, 100 pct. guarantee.

'69 VOLKSWAGEN Square Back Beans, 3 to choose from, all equipped with radios, 4 speed transmission, and factory air conditioning. All are local new car trade ins, 100 pct. guarantee.

'68 VOLKSWAGEN 7 passenger station wagon, beige and matching interior, radio, 4 speed, new station wagon trade, 100 pct. guarantee.

'68 VOLKSWAGEN Fastback Sedan, dark green and platinum interior, automatic, radio, air conditioning, new car trade low miles, 100 pct. guarantee.

'68 VOLKSWAGEN 2 door, automatic radio, white walls, red and black interior, new car trade, 100 pct. guarantee.

BEST WISHES FOR

A HAPPY HOLIDAY

SEASON FROM ALL OF

US AT SHERMANS

Good's

FINE FURNITURE & CARPETING

237 North Main

Phone 429-2441

Wishing You Happy Holidays

ILLINOIS
BELL
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Wishing You Happy Holidays

Vigilante violence in N. Carolina

By Charles Warrts, Jr.

WILMINGTON, N.C. — We have already recounted how ruling class whites of New Hanover County used their positions to incite the passions of lower echelon whites, thereby sparking the bloody Massacre of 1898. It was this strategy that destroyed the political and economic power of Blacks and imposed a reign of terror that is still much in evidence today.

IN THIS concluding article, the facts vividly point out that the dangerous divisions now plaguing Wilmington's Black community largely stem from the collusion of state and local officials with the forces of vigilante violence.

The initial violence was directed at Black students, mainly by policemen called in after students resisted racist attacks launched against them from all levels at the city's desegregated schools. This action by whites, calculated to regain "neighborhood schools," was further frustrated when Black parents and other community leaders began cautiously supporting the courageous stands taken by the students.

The issue then moved from one of school desegregation to the absolute prerogatives of white power, long taken for granted in New Hanover County. This in turn, rested on the festering wound of absolute political powerlessness in the Black community.

Therefore, it was the resistance posed by a Black community attempting to exercise a measure of control over their lives that outraged whites who correctly saw this as a threat to the status quo and perhaps a prelude to more substantial moves toward political power.

Readily recognizing the inherent threat to their own lily-white rule, whose legitimacy still rests on the spoils of 1898, Wilmington's ruling elite began using public forums and city newspapers to mount attacks against the defensive stance of Blacks.

And in the time-tested tradition of 1898, these leaders, by denouncing and discrediting this move for genuine reform as one launched by "Communists" and "fools" actually incited vigilante violence. Only this time it was

a group aptly calling itself the Rights of white people (ROWP) who led the assault, acting out the role of its predecessor, the Secret Nine of 1898.

One response by Wilmington's Mayor Pro Tem John Symmes which most of the city's leaders have subscribed to in varying degrees, (Quoted previously) came upon hearing the announced plans of the New York based United Church of Christ to hold hearings aimed at finding possible solutions for Wilmington's racial problems. In a candid statement he asserted, "I think our trouble is primarily due to fools like these."

A sampling of accounts of the city's racial troubles carried in white newspapers turned up this quote from the New Hanover Sun: "Communist rebellion surfaced on a grand scale in Wilmington February 3 and up to Sunday afternoon had not deviated from normal operating procedures for communist rebellion."

Referring to a boycott carried out by Black students, the newspaper continues: "(Ben)

Chavis and his boycotters and or outside Cadre while bombing buildings outside the immediate area of the church were increasing sniper fire in the immediate area in hopes of confrontation with the police."

Upon receiving a letter from the Rev. Ben Chavis, pastor of the African Congregational Church of the Black Messiah, requesting a retraction of such "false and defamatory" statements pending suit, the paper replied in a headline proclaiming "Sue, Baby, Sue?"

Yet, in the face of such blatant complicity on the part of white community leaders, established Black organizations remain "alienated" from the youthful members of the BYBBC, which has been forced to go it alone for the most part.

Wilmington being the hub of trade in the southeastern portion of the state, the city's Chamber of Commerce represents such mammoth corporations as Dupont, General Electric, Nitrex and others who make up the city's major employers and wield tremendous power.

Yet, these powerful leaders have taken no stand against violence directed against the Black community. Nor have they made genuine moves aimed at altering the political or economic oppression of Blacks. But, they have sought to undermine the efforts of the BYBBC.

For this purpose, a heretofore defunct body known as the Human Relations Council has been revived by corporation executives. The council seeks to capitalize on the fear of "responsible" Black leaders with the aim of using them as a buffer against more militant and progressive elements in the community.

The Wilmington Journal often carries a banner head at the bottom of its front page that reads, "The Black Man's Greatest Present Need in New Hanover County is UNITY! This reporter would say more specifically that the survival of Wilmington's Black community hinges upon an alliance of groups within that community that recognizes the courage and political foresight of the BYBBC.



CALL NOW
429-4627 429-2240

AGES 10 - 16

THIS IS
YOUR OPPORTUNITY

NEEDED
PAPER
BOYS
EARN
EXTRA CASH

READ
THE
VOICE

MADISON AVENUE JESUS

Dear Jesus,

It seems to me that you have no conception of decency and good manners. Apparently you have never really understood the white man's religion. If you had, you would not have begun your public ministry by calling for repentance. I mean, repentance is radical change, a recognition of guilt, a reversal of the past, an about-face. You can't expect that from people.

You must have read the multitude of studies that show beyond a shadow of a doubt that no means of communication can do more than make very slight changes. But you talk about "rebirth." What nonsense! And all this talk about the Holy Spirit is so much childish superstition.

You ought to focus on smaller changes that might reasonably be expected. But no. You make outrageous demands that force people to conclude that you are irresponsible. The only other thing they could conclude is that the entire present world-order is fundamentally wicked, and that is preposterous. Your whole position is so extreme that either you or they have got to be stark, raving mad.

And you demand! You don't simply request or suggest. Who are you to make demands on people? You must recognize your place. You should come, hat in hand, and tactfully discuss what you feel is needed.

Listen: we're in the midst of a national crisis, and we just can't afford to indulge ourselves in utopian idealism and emotional tirades. What we need are not wild-eyed prophets but hard-headed technicians who are willing to compromise their principles occasionally.

Now don't misunderstand me. I agree with your goals; it is your methods that bother me. I realize that you are young, and youth is impatient. But you must learn that these things take time. Rome wasn't built in a day, you know. You should aim for gradual, evolutionary development rather than for rebirth. People don't just repent, and all of a sudden redirect their lives. To change your life-style is a long, slow process.

And take this matter of tact. You have a splendid opportunity to communicate with the scribes and the Pharisees, our national leaders, and what do you do? Talk to them nicely as any sensible young man would? No, of course not. You call them, "Hypocrites," "Whited sepulchres full of dead men's bones." What kind of idiocy is that? It is certainly no way to win friends and influence people.

The scribes and Pharisees are the people you really need . . . they are the opinion moulders, the ones with power and money. You just can't afford to offend them. How are you and your followers going to continue living by faith if you alienate all the people with money?

Remember, win the leaders and you have won. But no, you have everything backwards. You are only nice to the other side — publicans and sinners, fishermen and prostitutes, Samaritans and lepers, madmen and cripples. Riff-raff.

Can't you understand that what you need is men with status? They control all the institutions, the machinery of society, the good jobs. That's what counts. The people are irrelevant. You won't get far in this old world of ours if you don't carve out a place for yourself in some institution.

Not to mention that respectable people wouldn't be seen with the trash around you. What middle-class Jewish mother could let her children associate with you when there are all those outcasts around you? Why, it would be a disgrace! What would her neighbors say?

The people you spend your time with are so vile that they know themselves that they need to repent. Why don't you attack them instead of decent people? The way you act you must think there is something wrong with being decent enough to be satisfied with yourself.

And don't give me that bit about not putting new wine in old wine skins. If respectable people were to change gradually, it would still be change even if they never did repent. It would be nice to bring people to the point of repentance, but you can't have everything.

Besides your idea of repentance is absurd. You can hardly expect an upright citizen to believe that in the eyes of a righteous God he is no different from a pious, Samaritan prostitute. It is flat contrary to the white man's religion to think that he is no better than anyone else and that his decency is a farce. You'll just have to learn to accept rich young rulers as they are.

Furthermore, why can't you be positive occasionally instead of always stressing guilt and sin and past mistakes? This country has a glorious tradition that you should dwell on. Our people have done many wonderful things. Why don't you say that once in a while?

I suggest that you lead an "Honor Israel Day," and then people will listen to what criticisms you do have. But if you criticize all the time, the majority is bound to conclude that you are just a rebellious malcontent with a permissive father who needs to assuage his own guilt feelings and sense of inadequacy.

-You see, you need to think more about your public image. There are times when you can't do all you would like to do because it might be misunderstood. If you do it anyway, you will find later that people won't pay any attention to you when an even more important issue arises.

Let the case of Micaiah be a lesson to you. At a crucial time in the history of Israel and Judah, Ahab and Jehoshaphat needed some good, solid advice. Micaiah was the only person who could give it, but by then he was not a credible figure. As Ahab explained, "I hate him; for he doth not prophecy good concerning me,

but evil" (1 Kgs. 22:8). Now if only Micaiah had kept silent earlier and not always been harping on Ahab's weak points, he could have averted a major tragedy. Image is a very important thing.

You may well say that credibility can only be achieved at the price of becoming part of the wickedness that needs to be repented of. But that's precisely my point: you need to learn to think positively instead of dwelling on idealistic notions of wickedness and repentance and non-compromise.

It is true, of course, that if Micaiah had been silent before and had gradually built up a good reputation with the king, then he might have feared losing it and not spoken out when the time came. Or silence in the face of earlier evil might have so dulled his sensitivities that he would have had nothing to say. But who are we to judge?

Honestly Jesus, you are so confused I hardly know what more to say. All this talk about love in a world that only understands power. And surely it is a mistake to insist that you came "not to bring peace, but a sword." At a time like this people need to be reconciled to each other, and you can't do that by insisting on righteousness. Personally, I am left absolutely speechless when I hear you tell responsible citizens to sell what they have. Don't you realize how this strikes at the very heart of our economy?

So I just don't know what to say. But I do know this. If you continue following your present pattern, the same thing will happen to you as happened to John the Baptist and most of the prophets in the Old Testament.

Now, if you really want to accomplish something, here is what I suggest. . . .



Poinsettia
Paul Mikkelsen

Plant Patent No. 2328

Special Cash 'n Carry Prices

2 BLOOMS

\$ 2⁸⁸

3 BLOOMS

\$ 3⁴⁸

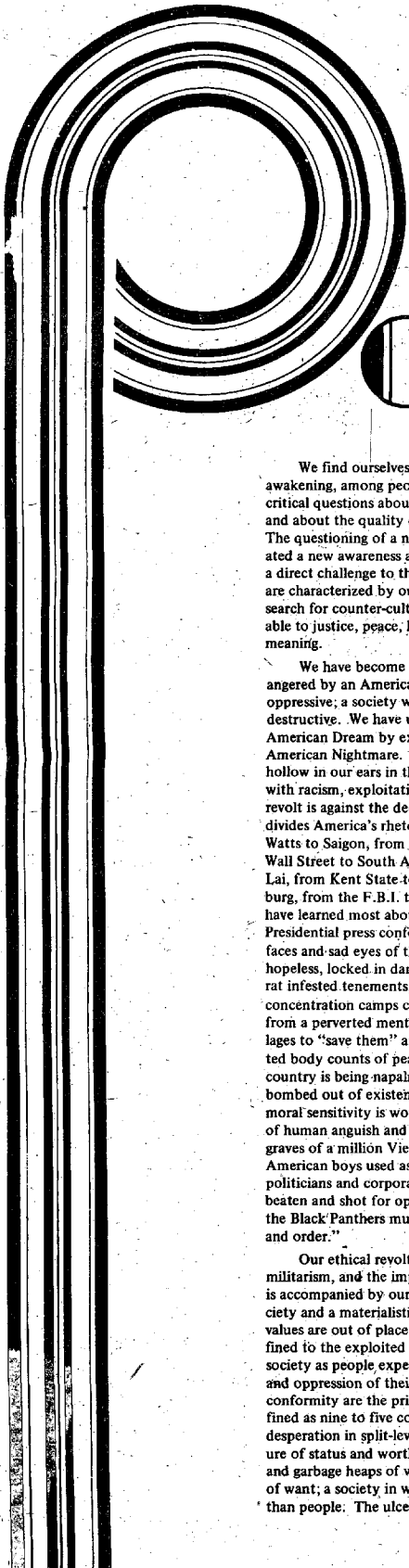
Hours
Till
Xmas

8-8



Mc Manus
Florists & Nursery

Can you dig what soul is really about?



POST-AMERICA

We find ourselves in the midst of a radical awakening, among people who are raising basic and critical questions about the nature of our society and about the quality of life in the world we inherit. The questioning of a new generation has generated a new awareness and activism which poses a direct challenge to the American status quo. We are characterized by our protest and our frustrated search for counter-cultural alternatives more amenable to justice, peace, human values, and spiritual meaning.

We have become disillusioned, alienated, and angered by an American system that we regard as oppressive; a society whose values are corrupt and destructive. We have unmasked the myth of the American Dream by exposing the reality of the American Nightmare. Establishment speeches ring hollow in our ears in the face of a society cancerous with racism, exploitation, repression and war. Our revolt is against the deception and hypocrisy that divides America's rhetoric from its actions; from Watts to Saigon, from Columbia to Chicago, from Wall Street to South Africa, from Mississippi to My Lai, from Kent State to Jackson State and Orangeburg, from the F.B.I. to the Pentagon papers. We have learned most about this country not from Presidential press conferences but from the suffering faces and sad eyes of the oppressed, exploited, and hopeless, locked in dark ghettos of human misery, rat infested tenements, rural prisons of poverty, and concentration camps called reservations. We recoil from a perverted mentality that destroys Asian villages to "save them" and judges its success by inflated body counts of peasants and children whose country is being napalmed, burned, defoliated and bombed out of existence to "protect it." Our moral sensitivity is wounded by student cries of human anguish and death which rise from the graves of a million Vietnamese, from fifty thousand American boys used as cannon fodder for generals, politicians and corporate profiteers, from students beaten and shot for opposing the madness, and from the Black Panthers murdered in bed to "secure law and order."

Our ethical revolt against systematic injustice, militarism, and the imperialism of a "power elite" is accompanied by our protest of a technocratic society and a materialistic profit culture where human values are out of place. We see that suffering is not confined to the exploited classes, but exists throughout society as people experience the meaninglessness and oppression of their own lives. Obedience and conformity are the price of a "success" that is defined as nine to five corporate jobs and lives of quiet desperation in split-level suburbia. Money is a measure of status and worth in a society of created needs and garbage heaps of wasted abundance in the midst of want; a society in which things are valued more than people. The ulcerating drive for air-conditioned

affluence has not given satisfaction or fulfillment, but has instead, produced lives that are hollow, plastic, and superficial; characterized by economic surplus and spiritual starvation. Fundamentally, we protest a society that stresses "having" rather than "being." We see American society as rich and full of everything but justice, meaning and spiritual consciousness. Recurrent themes of life without purpose and direction, alienation, lack of identity, meaninglessness, and existential despair, are clearly seen in our media and culture, in the confused lives of people around us, and in our own frustrated searching. The black man suffers, but the life of the white man is not as beautiful as the oppressed sometimes paint it. We are all prisoners, victims of our society and ourselves, struggling to find the manhood that has eluded us.

This radical awakening that we have experienced, this new awareness that pleads for change requires a rethinking of basic assumptions about our society, about ourselves. Our protest must be more than negation and refusal; it must also include affirmation and radical alternatives.

Our affirmation must have an adequate basis for our values, vision, and goals which can provide the motivation, direction, and self-criticism necessary in seeking radical change; a vision that can keep us from the bitterness, despair, hatred and desperation that causes people to drop out, sell out, or turn their fight for justice and social change into a murderous crusade. We require radical transformation, a new understanding of society and ourselves. As the analysis of our dilemma must be radical so must our solutions. — going to the heart, the root causes of our problems, being comprehensive enough to avoid simplistic pitfalls. Clearly our liberation must be personal as well as social. Marcuse has said, "Political radicalism thus implies moral radicalism: the emergence of a morality which might precondition man for freedom." Man must be changed as well as his social structures. It is man who built oppressive social structures, man who exploits and kills his brother. The brutality and stupidity of the twentieth century have painfully revealed man's inhumanity to man, and rudely shattered our naive illusions about ourselves. Man's oppressive ego, self-centeredness, hatred, greed, prejudice, and aggression have again surfaced as motivations of our individual and corporate lives. We must escape the illusions of every simplistic group that looks only beyond itself for the source of human misery. We must realize that the evil we oppose lies also within ourselves. Herman Hesse says it well:

Now and again I have expressed the opinion that every nation and every person would do better, instead of rocking himself to sleep with political catchwords about war guilt, to ask himself how far his own faults and negligences and evil tendencies are guilty of the war and

N CHRISTIANITY

all the other wrongs of the world, and that there lies the only possible means of avoiding the next war.

All this is simply to say that our new vision must be a vehicle for personal transformation, the emergence of the new man, as well as providing the basis for social liberation. To challenge the system, we must be willing to have our own lives changed, and become radical ourselves. To repudiate the old is not enough, we must act on the basis of a new reality that we have experienced. We must not merely suggest radical alternatives, but rather, we must live and be those alternatives.

We contend that the new vision that is necessary is to be found in radical Christian faith that is grounded in commitment to Jesus Christ. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; the old has passed, the new has come." We believe that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is a liberating force which has radical consequences for human life and society. However for the radical nature of the Christian faith to be realized, it must break the chains of American culture and be proclaimed to all peoples. The offense of established religion is the proclamation and practice of a caricature of Christianity so enculturated, domesticated, and lifeless that our generation easily and naturally rejects it as ethically insensitive, hypocritical, and irrelevant to the needs of our times.

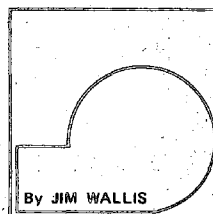
We find that the American church is in captivity to the values and life-style of our culture. Institutional Christianity in America has allowed itself to become a conservative defender of the status quo, a church largely co-opted and conformed to the American system in direct disobedience to Biblical teaching (Romans 12:2). The American captivity of the church has resulted in the disastrous equation of the American way of life with the Christian way of life. This cultural captivity has caused the church to lose its prophetic voice by preaching and exporting a pro-American gospel and a materialistic faith which supports and sanctifies the values of American society, rather than calling them into question. By its implication in the American status quo, by participating in the anti-Christian mind set of our society (racism, materialism, nationalism), the church has lost its ethical authority and has become the chaplain of the American nation preaching a harmless folk religion of comfort, convenience, and Presidential prayer breakfasts.

We fault a narrow orthodoxy that speaks of salvation but is often disobedient to the teaching of the prophets, the apostles, and Christ Himself, who clearly state that faith divorced from a radical commitment to social justice is a mockery. Salvation never occurs in isolation from one's brother. True spirituality manifests itself in active concern for the needs and rights of people. We fault also a naive and inadequate liberal theology which neglects man's need

of personal transformation and liberation, perverts the historic content of the Christian faith and reduces Jesus Christ to a Galilean boy scout. Our Christian messages are incomplete, hollow shells, manipulated by the forces of nationalism, wealth, and conformity into helpless captivity. Our church needs to be de-orientated from American culture and reformed Biblically. A faith rooted in Biblical data must stress both personal liberation and dynamic commitment to social justice that contains the seeds of social liberation.

A new generation of radical Christians is coming together to decry the church's accommodation to non-Christian ways, to reach out to others who have become aware of the radical implications of the Christian faith, and to commit ourselves to discipleship to Jesus Christ and the proclamation of the total Christian message of personal and social liberation. To be Christian is to be radical — it is to know the central biblical expectation of the death of the old and the birth of the new. "Behold I make all things new." Christian radicalism provides the vehicle for people willing to change their own lives, to challenge the system, to take the problem of change seriously. Radicalism is revelational in its basis and revolutionary in its consciousness. The good news of the Gospel is the entrance of Jesus Christ into history, the inbreaking of a new order, the proclamation of a message of reconciliation and new life to alienated men. The revelation of God in Jesus Christ and His Kingdom provides our basis of value, hope, and a radicalism that cannot be crushed. Radical Christians seek to recover the earliest doctrines of Christianity, its historical basis, its radical ethical spirit, and its revolutionary consciousness. The radical Christian must resist those who would equate Christianity with the American way of life or baptize American foreign policy, or agree with those who compartmentalize religion and so emphasize the personal Saviour as to mitigate His being Lord over all life. Radical Christians view the personal and social dimensions of salvation as integrally related in biblical definitions. The biblical concepts of rebirth, new life, and justice, point to fundamental change from sin to grace, from selfishness to love, from captivity and oppression to freedom and liberation.

Christians must be active in rejecting the values of our corrupt society, radical in our resistance and activism against the injustice of a racist society, warfare state, and materialistic system. We must be people of God, "salt and light," those of a new order who live by the values and ethical priorities of Jesus Christ and His kingdom. We must be radical disciples applying the comprehensive Christian message to all areas of life, culture, and human need — committed to reconciliation, justice, peace and faith which is distinctly Post-American.



Motion of world politics posing problem for U.S.

By Charles Simmons
(U.N. Correspondent)

UNITED NATIONS — The seating of Peking in this international organization, the possible growth of the European Common Market from six to ten Western Nations excluding the U.S. but including Britain, (as the U.S.'s agent) and the weakening of the U.S.'s leading position as the Western economic political power, has ushered in a new era of international affairs.

QUESTIONS ARE being raised here about the possibility of bringing in the divided nations as member states of the UN. Those include Korea, Viet Nam, and the two Germanys. This year's talks on Korea during the general debate were postponed until next year since the Koreans are holding talks themselves through their respective Red Cross organizations in Panmunjon. The talks concern easing of military presence and hold the long range view to peaceful reunification.

The situation of Viet Nam is less certain and Washington is clearly opposed to any form of neutrality in Saigon, or talks between Saigon and Hanoi, or Saigon and the Provisional Revolutionary Government which has been recognized by numerous nations as the true representative of the people of Southern Viet Nam.

With the admission of Peking to the Security Council there is the growing possibility that the issues of Southeast Asia vs. US imperialism may be discussed here for the first time. And once the issue is brought forward, it is also possible that Asian freedom fighters would be brought in to testify before various committees as do liberation representatives from Africa.

Although the issues may not be settled in these halls, it would certainly be a political-diplomatic victory for the anti-imperialist forces.

The long-standing question of the two Germanys still trouble many nations, especially those in the East European Warsaw pact and the West European-US-NATO alliance. German military history under Bismark and Hitler provide both East and Western nations with strong memories of imperialist warfare and economic exploitation, and the strong presence of US NATO troops in West Germany and the subsequent re-armament there has reawakened those memories.

On the other hand, West German leaders have been engaged in talks with Soviet leaders which raise speculations that there is a possibility of mutual "relaxation of tensions" that is, increased trade and decreased military presence between East and Western

Europe which centers in the partitioned city of Berlin.

The past year has seen an increasing number of trade missions traveling between the developing nations and the socialist nations of Europe and Asia. Increased trade from the socialist nations to the developing countries has brought about a decline in the profit potential of the developed capitalist nations. That has caused more internal conflicts within the Western nations (workers in Italy have been on strike in some significant sector of the economy for three years, and a crisis in unemployment in Britain has put at least one million workers out of jobs).

In addition, increased competition among those nations in the West for the shrinking world market has led to serious antagonisms between those countries. At the same time, inflation is rampant and Western currency from the dollar to the mark has little stability in foreign exchange or for shopping housewives. This has given a measure of economic relief to those developing nations and enough independence for them to vote against resolutions proposed by Washington.

For instance in Latin America there were Peru, Chile and Ecuador no longer intimidated by the Yankee who has dictated their foreign

policies from Wall Street since the end of Spanish colonialism in South America.

Another example is the invitation given by Latin nations to Cuba to join an international trade conference in Argentina in spite of US disapproval. Cuba has not participated officially in Latin American affairs since President Kennedy gave other American nations the word to kick Havana out of the US-sponsored Alliance - For Progress.

There has also been increased trade between the socialist nations and Western Europe together with a desire among some Western European states to join their forces against US corporations. In their similar efforts to exploit the developing world, the US, Western Europe, and Japan are becoming involved in serious competition. Relations between the US and Japan are at a low point approaching the period leading to Pearl Harbor.

Internal Western competition is one of the main reasons that Britain will be admitted to the European Common Market expanding that body to ten nations. And Canada, New Zealand, and Australia are showing signs of concern about switching partners from the US to increased dealings with Western Europe and Japan since, in its own self-interests, the US has been clearly getting

too much of the pie.

In Canada alone, the US controls some 70% of foreign trade according to official sources.

In addition to increased East-West trade in Europe, there is talk of re-arranging European military alliances in varying degrees of independence from the US-backed NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization).

NATO was the military arm and the Marshall Plan was the economic development arm of the Truman administration engineered by then Secretary of State Dean Acheson, often called the father of the Cold War.

One important sign of Western Europe's decision to "go it alone" was the ten-year trade agreement signed in Paris by Soviet Union leader Leonid Brezhnev and French President Pompidou. The leaders said they expected their mutual trade to double within the next five years.

The talks also included European Security which is diplomatic terminology for saying that NATO has lost a great deal of influence among US allies. France was the first nation to withdraw from NATO several years ago.

According to European writers, there may be a precedent - setting security conference of European nations next year including East and West delegations.



ROBO Car Wash

YOUR SATISFACTION IS OUR ONLY CONCERN

ROBO WASH \$1.00
with wax \$1.25

FREE with FILLUP
Your Savings Is \$1.00

3 FOR 1 PLAID STAMPS DAILY
ASK FOR FREE LITTER BAGS

PUMP OPEN HOURS

7 A.M. - 11 P.M. Daily
8 A.M. - 10 P.M. Sun.

WASH BAYS OPEN 24 HRS.

ROBO CAR WASH NO. 1

2970 N. MAIN
DECATUR, ILL.

ANOTHER GULF SERVICE TO YOU



GET THE INSIDE STORY OF THIS PHILCO VALUE

Color Black & White

PHILCO SALES & SERVICE

ELECTRONICS UNLIMITED

1227 E. WOOD

423-0504

SICKLE CELL BILL SIGNED

Chicago, Dec. 14--Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie signed two House Bills today to control Sickle Cell Anemia. He created a Governor's Commission on Sickle Cell Anemia and appointed Dr. Billie W. Adams chairman.

HB 3063 allows doctors to screen marriage license applicants, upon request, in conjunction with other regular blood tests, to see if they have the Sickle Cell trait. Testing then would not only alert them, but also let them know if their children might develop this disease.

HB 3064 allows testing of children during the regular physical examination required for school entrance, and before the child's entrance into the first, fifth and ninth grades. All positive results would be filed with the examining physician and the state Dept. of Public Health.

Sickle Cell Anemia strikes Blacks almost exclusively. It is a painful, life shortening disease that is genetically transmitted from parent to child, and is reported to afflict one out of every ten Blacks.

Ogilvie also announced that Illinois is seeking a federal grant of \$200,000 to support the state's four-point program to combat this deadly disease. Funds will be needed for detection of sickle cell carriers, treatment of those already afflicted, genetic counselling and detection of related blood diseases.

Dr. Billie W. Adams, a leading Black pediatrician-hematologist of Chicago's South Side, was present at the signing ceremonies along with other commission members Dr. Charles C. Hurst, president of Malcolm X Community College; Leon Finney, executive director of The Woodlawn Organization; Ogilvie Asst. Lewis E.

Langston, who has a special responsibility for the program. Fred D. Grant, board of directors, Midwest Assoc. for Sickle Cell Anemia, represented their commission member Joseph Semper.

These House Bills were co-sponsored by State Representatives Eugene Barnes, D-29th, and J. Glenn Schneider, D-new 41st, who were present with their wives.

Other members of the Governor's Commission on Sickle Cell Anemia are Dr. Julian Bierman, Dr. Rowine Brown, Nancy Jefferson, Midwest Community Council; Roy Neal, Garfield Organization; the Rev. Ed Riddick, community leader; Helen Sutton, pharmacist; and Dr. Florence Winfield.

This commission has the responsibility of development and implementation of in-depth reviewing, planning, programming and advising for the State of Illinois to curb and control sickle cell anemia.



"Say it with Flowers"

SVENDSEN FLORIST

2702 N. Broadway Phone 677-1767
DECATUR, ILL. 62526



Standing with Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie are left to right: Dr. Billie W. Adams, Pediatric Hematologist and Chairman of the Committee; Dr. Charles C. Hurst, President of Malcolm X Community College; Lewis E. Langston, Asst. to Gov. Ogilvie; State Rep. J. Glenn Schneider, D-new 41st Dist.; Leon Finney, Executive Director of The Woodlawn Organization; Fred D. Grant, board of directors, Midwest Assoc. for Sickle Cell Anemia, and State Rep. Eugene M. Barnes, D-29th District.



IT'S FUN TO SAVE JOLLY TOKENS -
they're VALUABLE
it's more fun to cash them in for gifts.

Here's how it works

Each time you pay for a cleaning order over \$1.00, you get a Jolly Token. You get 1 point for each dollar. If you pick up an order for \$4.25, you get 4 points in Jolly Tokens. If your order is \$9.00, you get 8 points . . . and so on! There's no limit!

Check our display for exciting gift items and their point values

PEACOCK CLEANERS

750 E. Prairie

Phone 423-3635

Chrysler's Wig Town Boutique

★ SPORTSWEAR ★ DRESSES ★ LINGERIE
★ WIGS ★ WIGLETS ★ FALLS ★ WIG STYLING
138 N. Merchant St. Decatur, Illinois 62523
Phone 473-3667

THE LIGHT HATH SHINED. . . .



**THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE WALKED IN DARKNESS
HAVE SEEN A GREAT LIGHT; THEY THAT DWELL
IN THE LAND OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, UPON
THEM HATH THE LIGHT SHINED.**

AFL-CIO convention skirts real issues

By FRANK LOVELL

Nine hundred aged and seasoned delegates purporting to represent nearly 16 million organized workers met at the AFL-CIO convention in Bal Harbour, Fla., Nov. 18-22. Although held at the plush Americana Hotel, it was a drab affair by all standards.

The script was trite, the actors mediocre and the action anticlimactic. Two brief scenes reflected dimly the economic and social crisis that is the real backdrop of the whole show. AFL-CIO President George Meany and U.S. President Nixon, held center stage while the Black caucus scene was consigned to the wings.

The real questions for working men and women are how to end war, unemployment, and inflation. The convention could reasonably have been expected to deal with these questions. Instead, the action centered upon government wage controls and how these can be imposed "equitably" to the mutual benefit and satisfaction of workers and employers.

The 90-day wage freeze imposed by presidential decree last Aug. 15 robbed workers of an estimated \$4-billion in uncollected wage raises previously negotiated, while prices rose and layoffs continued.

Nixon's real goal was to better the position of U.S. monopolies in world trade and finance while continuing the murderous war in Indochina. Since the beginning of the freeze, Nixon has escalated the combat in Cambodia and Laos, extended the aerial bombardment of Vietnam, and increased the military budget to a projected \$80-billion annually.

Following the initial 90-day wage freeze, the government launched its wage-control machinery for Phase Two of the freeze. This consists of a 15-member Pay Board, with "public," labor, and management representatives; a seven-member Price Commission of "public" representatives; and a Cost of Living Council made up of government officials and headed by Treasury Secretary John B. Connally to oversee the other two panels. All posts were filled by presidential appointment. The avowed purpose of this machinery is to control both prices and wages, hoping in this way to check the inflationary spiral. In effect, it will try to limit annual wage

increases to 5.5 percent.

Five top union officials, including Meany, have agreed to serve on this anti-union government Pay Board, where all contracts between labor and management are reviewed, renegotiated, and revised downward.

One of the issues at the AFL-CIO convention was whether the union officials would or should continue to serve on the Pay Board, which Meany admitted is a "slacked deck." That issue never got to the convention floor. It was decided in advance in the Executive Council, where it was discovered by curious logic that if the union officials refused to serve on the Pay Board, they would then somehow become the "scapegoats" of whatever goes wrong with bipartisan wage-control schemes.

This is the sequence of events leading up to the Bal Harbour performance. The sham battle staged there between Meany and Nixon occurred only over how best to palm off the whole wage-control scheme on the suspicious victims. It was, in fact, part of the deception.

There is agreement among the Republican administration, the Democratic Congressional majority, and the labor bureaucracy that the current economic and social crisis of the capitalist system requires government-enforced wage controls. Their differences are over how to impose these controls and who will benefit from the public debate about them when the votes are cast in the 1972 elections. The labor bureaucrats are not opposed to wage controls, only to the Republican administration. They are out to "defeat Nixon at all costs," and elect a Democrat in his place.

Nixon went to Bal Harbour on Nov. 19 to announce that he will carry through his wage-control program whether or not union officials cooperate. His purpose was to present himself to the nation as the "strong leader" fighting valiantly against inflation and defying the protests and insults of labor aristocrats.

Meany remarked after Nixon had completed his performance, "We will now proceed to Act Two." This "Act Two" unfolds as a sequel to the convention in which the Republican administration and the union officials engage in mutual recriminations,

while expressing "respect." It was on this note that the convention closed with President Meany declaring, "This does not mean that our respect for the president and his office calls for us to submit to something that we consider unjust. Otherwise our pride in America and its institutions would be meaningless."

A resolution on foreign policy adopted by the convention without debate was the usual jingoist statement characteristic of Meany and his pro-war clique. Antiwar resolutions adopted by many AFL-CIO central bodies and sent to the convention were ignored, even though some of the delegates had sponsored such resolutions in their home locals and in state conventions.

The convention did nothing to aid the tens of thousands of workers who are presently on strike—telephone workers, longshoremen, coal miners dissatisfied with the deal their officials signed with the employers. No words were expressed about the struggle of women workers for equal job rights and day-care centers.

The final day of the convention had been reserved for the appearance of Democratic presidential hopefuls, including Muskie, Humphrey, Jackson, and McGovern. But with the exception of McGovern, they decided not to put in an appearance because re-

porters were sure to question them on the wage-control issue. They all support the bipartisan scheme to drive down wages.

For the first time at an AFL-CIO convention, a Black caucus was formed. The few Black delegates, under the leadership of Charles Hayes, a vice-president of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters union, and veteran AFL-CIO executive A. Philip Randolph of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, organized the caucus and invited prominent representatives of the Black community to join them. Their purpose was to bring before the convention some proposals to deal with the needs of Black workers facing the problems of war, racism, unemployment, and inflation.

The Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, national director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's Operation Breadbasket, was one of the prominent speakers for the caucus. Although Jackson was not permitted to speak before the delegates as Nixon had done, he spoke at a news conference. He announced that the caucus was trying to get the union movement to oppose the government wage freeze by calling large-scale protest strikes and demonstrations. The caucus also wanted the unions to take direct action to stop layoffs and end unemployment, and called for them to force an end to the war in Vietnam.



"THE GUY LIKE THIS WHO GIVE US CORRUPT COPS A BAD NAME!"

SCHWARTZ
Furniture Company
690-56 NO. GAYL ST.
DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523

TERMS TO SUIT

3 ROOM OUTFITS

as low as

\$39900

IF CHRIST CAME BACK TODAY by Tom Loudon

It seems that if God really wanted to communicate to all of mankind, Christ would have come in the 20th century. Jesus Christ Superstar suggests that if Christ would have come when we had mass communication that the world would have reacted much more favorably towards Him. It certainly seems that He could have been exposed to many more people; but on second thought, what would be the response if Christ were to come to America today?

Wouldn't the people who call themselves Christians be most offended by Him, rejecting Him because He associated with outcasts; blacks, hippies, radicals, street people, and other "undesirables." They would be appalled that He hung around bars, communes, the streets and other "questionable" places. "Surely the company you keep, and the places you go are a reflection of what kind of a person you are." They would fail to see that these

were the people who were most realistic about their personal and social situation, and their need for liberation. Seeing Him only as a threat to their comfortable way of life, they would totally miss His real message of how He could set them free personally and socially, and transform their whole existence.

When he refused to fight in our army, wouldn't our militarists call Him a subversive, our nationalists claim that He was not a true American? When it got around that He was telling people not to let America squeeze them into her mold, people would realize that He was a traitor. Their suspicions would be confirmed when it became visible that He was actively organizing people, calling them to be salt and light and to have transformed minds, living with another kingdom in mind. People would see that He was trying to destroy the American way of life.

The F.B.I. would set up a file and begin full scale investigations on Him to determine how much

of a threat He was to national security. Evidence would show that He identified with the poor and the oppressed; and that He denounced our leaders, the "respectable" of our society, those with wealth and power.

When He continued to talk of peace, justice, love and obedience to a higher authority, they would have to find a way to get rid of Him. A conspiracy charge could easily be created that would put Him behind bars, especially if He crossed state lines. When He still caused an enormous amount of trouble, organizing the prisoners as well as embarrassing the guards by talking about their personal guilt and need for liberation, more drastic measures would be sought.

Christ, in the 20th century would be hated, rejected, and perhaps even killed as He was in the 1st century. It seems that He would certainly be "crucified" in a 20th century way.

How to protect yourself when buying on credit

(From Hooka)

DALLAS (LNS) — Smith Furniture Company operates seven stores in Dallas, all of which are in the Black, Chicano, or deteriorating lower middle class sections of the city.

THE BULK of their furniture stock consists of inexpensive appliances, and poorly constructed, inferior quality furniture purchased by the car load and retailed as "budget housewares." The mark-ups run as high as 400 percent.

The key to selling "budget" furniture is credit, and the Smith Company has it down to an art. Let's say a cheap refrigerator costs the store \$55.00; the retail price can be set between \$110 and \$150.

STACKING THE PRICE

The salesman will ask the purchaser for a 20% to 30% down payment. The store receives most of the actual cost immediately. Now to the purchase price is added sales tax, interest, a delivery charge and possibly a service warranty.

Service warranties are optional but the salesman will make it sound like it quits running tomorrow you would be out of a lot of bread; and for a small fee you will have the security of our "free" service department while you are making those 12 easy payments.

What the customer isn't told is that if you miss one of those 12 easy payments, Smith will come and jerk that new ice box out of your pad. At the same time, you're going to be out of a lot of bread anyway.

MOST CUSTOMERS, regardless of their credit status, make at least a couple of payments. The merchandise

is new and they don't want to lose it the first month.

With the first payment, the store is probably already into the profit. At this point if they have the opportunity to repossess the box the company can make that piece of misfortune into some really big money. If the refrigerator gets repossessed the store starts by marking the original cost down from \$55 to say \$10; that's a \$45 income tax deduction.

REPOSSESSION RACKET

The customer, whom we may now classify as a "bad credit risk," is slapped with what is called a deficiency balance. He is still liable for (can be required to pay) the amount of the markdown (\$45), a fee for putting the box in resaleable condition (usually \$1 to \$10), plus the full interest on the contract (even if he only had it a couple of months), the delivery charge, and the amount of the service warranty (if he signed up for one).

THE "CREDIT RISK" is out of the amount of money he paid, doesn't have a refrigerator and could still owe the company more than the original value of the merchandise.

If they don't pay, that will be padded with additional interest each month, turned over to a collection agency and finally deducted from the company's income tax if the debt proves to be uncollectable.

And what happens to the refrigerator? It doesn't get thrown into the trash. A maintenance man who gets paid by the hour polishes it up and rolls it back out on the sales floor to be sold again. And not for \$10 either.

A Smith employee told a reporter that repossessions

that look new are sold for the full retail price. "I've seen them come in full of cockroaches and be sold three days later as floor models."

On beds, upholstered furniture and wooden items (soft goods) the markups are really fantastic. Something that cost \$20 can be sold for \$80. Soft goods sometimes come in sets or combinations, sometimes a single sale covers a complete room full of furniture.

SOFT GOODS can be had on credit for as little as ten percent down, and the company can work the same repossess-markdown-deduct game with them. On several hundred dollars worth of furniture and 36 months of interest, you can really play havoc with what IRS can collect at the end of the year.

ADD-ON CONTRACTS

An Add-On Contract binds the old purchase to the new purchase. If you default in your payments the company can repossess every piece of merchandise listed as sold to you on both contracts. In fact, if you had 5 add-ons spread out

over a period of years they could require you legally to surrender everything you ever bought from them.

And according to the letter of the law, they could press charges against you for any missing items sold or given away because it is against the law to sell or give away mortgaged furniture. But they don't tell you that.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

What is it like to have something repossessed? Smith trucks make as many repo trips as they do deliveries. The driver collects past due accounts, and does an ad-hoc repossession act that would do justice to a burglary ring.

When the repo-rapers come to your house you are within your legal rights to ask to see the signed court order.

If you remove the serial numbers from appliances it makes them harder to identify. You can also go shopping with a friend. You buy their furniture, let them buy yours, then swap. If repossessors take the wrong TV set you can sue them and break even. (It's just

a technicality but then that's what they rip you off on.)

Remember:

Bill collectors cannot have a customer jailed for failure to pay a debt.

If you are threatened with a fraud charge, they are the ones who will have to prove you had no intentions of paying for it when you bought it.

If merchandise is lost or stolen tell them to jump in the lake; they'll write it off anyway.

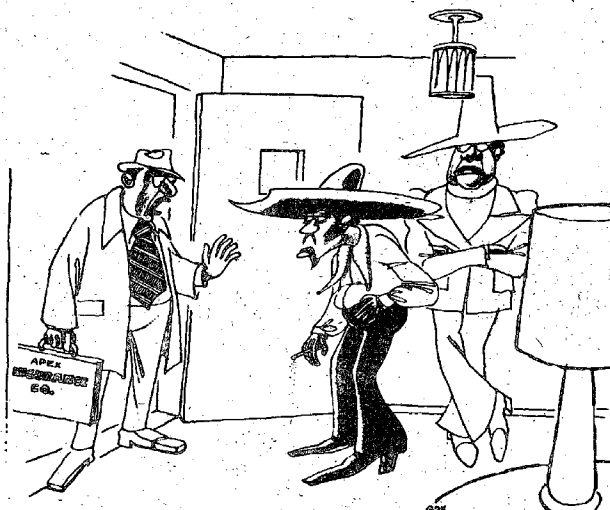
If the merchandise breaks down and they won't fix it for free, make them take it back. Most stores don't stand behind a guarantee unless you spend a lot of money with them.

When buying a car have the ignition lock changed. Repo people are supposed to use tow trucks. Likely as not they'll drive it off with the spare set of keys they keep.

If your payment is past due, always leave the vehicle locked with the brakes on. Stash the car at a friend's home or trade cars with someone across town. It will buy you some time.



"I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY SAY OUR CITIES ARE DYING— WE'RE ONLY KILLING NIGGERS!"



"LIFE INSURANCE, FOR A DOPE PUSHER—ARE YOU KIDDING?.....YOUR LIFE ISN'T WORTH A DIME YOU'RE WANTED FOR MURDER IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY!"

WISHING
YOU A
CONGENIAL
AND
PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR
MUIRHEIDS
Men's Shop

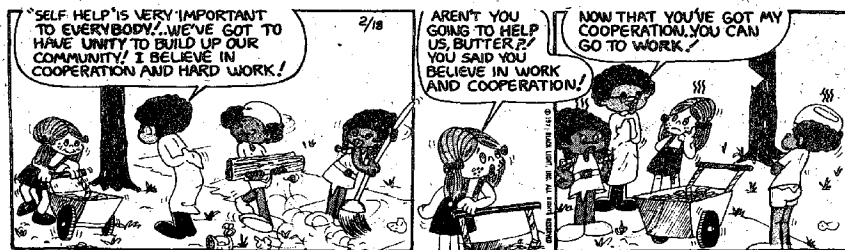
FAIRVIEW PLAZA



**No one wants foolish people
who love everyone but themselves
and their own kind; who would
rather beg
than go for self.**

MESSANGER MUHAMMAD'S TEACHINGS

Happy Holiday



MERRY
CHRISTMAS

Destroying Some Poverty Myths

For years, many Americans have believed several false ideas about poor people. Some such notions are that the minimum wage is enough to live on, that most of the poor are from the minority races, that the poor are lazy and don't work, and that there are only a few poor to worry about. Well, it ain't so! The recent economic policies of the country have made life miserable for millions. The poor have gotten poorer while the rich became richer.

Today, there are about 50.5 million families in the country. Of these, 8.1 million families live on an annual income of \$4,000 or less. The federal government ridiculously set its poverty standard at \$3,553 per year, for a family of four. The US Department of Labor determined in 1968 that an adequate income for an urban family of four was \$5,913. How do these income levels compare with those of workers making a comfortable wage? Experts in governmental agencies recently stated that an urban family of four lives "comfortably"

on an annual income of \$10,000. This leaves the highest poverty standard at 50% of the comfortable living income level.

Now, let's see what these income levels mean to a working man or woman:

OEO	USDL
Annual income, poverty level;	
\$3,553	\$5,913
Annual income at \$1.60/hour at 2080 hours per year;	
\$3,328	\$3,328
Additional income required to reach adequate income level; \$ 125	\$2,585
Additional hourly wage needed to reach adequate income level; \$.07	\$ 1.25

Using the present federal minimum wage of \$1.60/hour, this shows that a man working full time at this minimum wage can't meet either adequate income levels. Even the proposed new minimum wage of \$2.00/hour won't give a family of four the USDL adequate income.

Government figures also show that:

- 35% of the poor people live in families where the head of the family works full time throughout the year.
- 40% of the poor are children under 18.

- 20% of the poor are over 65.
- 65% of the poor are white.
- 10% or 12.9 million people living in metropolitan areas are poor.
- 13.4% of all people living in central cities are poor.
- 7.3% of all people living in suburbs are poor.
- 66.7% of the metropolitan poor are white.

And so we see, that contrary to what we've been encouraged to believe:

- a man can work all year long and still not be able to feed, clothe, and properly care for a family of four or more;
- most poor people are white;
- the majority of poor people are unable to work steadily;
- many poor people are full time workers;
- the cities and rural areas are both poverty spawning grounds.

There are over 200 million people in this country and nearly 50 million are living at or below the standard of poverty. That's about 25% of our people. This is supposedly the land of plenty. Well, for who?

by D. C.

Classified Action Ads

" WEIDENBACHER OLDS "

We invite you to see us for
All Automotive Repair
for better service.

423-0235

522 E. Williams

JONES
MEAT MARKET

BULK SAUSAGE ----- lb. 62c
SHORT RIBS ----- lb. 35c
RIB STEAK ----- lb. \$1.19
GROUND BEEF --- 3 lbs. & over ----- lb. 55c

Open 8 am to 5 pm - Closed Sundays
Full Line of Beef & Pork -- Custom Butchering
358 S. Weicker Rd. Ph. 423-0212

ONE HOUR
THE MOST RELIABLE SERVICE

SPRING CLEANUP

167 S. WATKINS ST.

DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Chicken Louie
BAR-B-Q CHICKEN & RIBS
SEA FOOD OUR SPECIALTY
OSYSTERS SHRIMP
Home Delivery

962 W. ELDORADO

429-2331

GRACE BROS. FLOOR COVERING
COMMERCIAL - RESIDENTIAL - INDUSTRIAL

1172 EAST ELDORADO ST. -- DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Phone 423-0713

Funeral
Bouquets
\$10
Free Delivery

Call for Bouquet Prices
See Our Display Flowers

McManus
Flowers & More

LET ACTION ADS WORK FOR YOU \$6⁰⁰ per month

Classified Action Ads

Gulf
VANDER PLUYM
OIL CO.
 Distributor of
 Gulf Oil Products

2700 N. Water John Vander Pluym, Owner

T.V. - Radio Repair

Carlisle Brown

526 S. Webster 429-1232

Handling
 of all kinds
 in Taylor

945 W. Cerro Gordo 423-8357

IDEAL DUPLICATING SERVICE
 CRIST PRINTING - GENERAL BUSINESS SERVICE
 MAILING SERVICE - BUSINESS FORMS

605 Central Heights Phone 428-0000
 Home 428-4100

Funeral Flowers
 Beautifully Fresh... Beautifully Arranged
 Promptly Delivered

Betty & Bob's Flower Shop
 230 W. Main • Betty Dand Dana • 429-2491

Sure Fit Seat Cover Center
 SEAT COVER SPECIALISTS
 CONVERTIBLE TOPS
 CUSTOM INTERIORS • LEASER

F. CALLAWAY
 \$2.00 DISCOUNT With this coupon
 PUB. C. WOOD PHONE 420-5142 DECATUR, ILL.

IRVIN HARDWARE
 Hardware • Paints • Electrical • Glass
 • Plumbing

2220 East Wood St. 429-0283

RAILROAD SALVAGE
 144 East Leeland... Decatur
 (A Block South of 2nd Street)
 OPEN MON. & TUE. 11:30 P.M. - Sat. 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Bob's Lock Shop
 701 E. Eldorado

You call - we'll come
 429-2471 Hite 429-4587

Rays Market
 800 N. Jasper
 Rays Lumber & Produce

1620 N. 32nd 423-6913

Decatur Auto Body
 Free Loan Cars
 Quality Workmanship

735 E. Cerro Gordo 423-9707

Hopkins Grocery
 Decatur's Oldest Grocer
 Since 1899

1267 N. Calhoun 429-4304

35 Years Experience Free Estimates
STUB'S CITY AUTO BODY
 COMPLETE AUTO REFINISHING
 3830 E. William St. Road - Decatur
 Phone 428-6653

FREE LOAN CARS

Cloyd's Market

Your one stop center for
 Groceries.

876 W. Grand 429-5101

Furniture
 Broadway & North - Part Free

Jake Hughes
 Lumber & Produce
 Wholesale Prices
 1841 Taylorville Rd. 429-4219

Browning Electrical Service
 Commercial & Residential
 Bonded & Insured

1516 N. Broadway 422-2186

Sharp
 Watch & Jewelry Shop
 Watch & Clock Repair

165 E. Prairie

Hazelrigg Plymouth
 New & Used Cars
 Open evenings.

2190 N. Oakland 877-7200

2843 N. OAKLAND
 DECATUR, ILLINOIS

TRU TEMP 877-6918
 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING CO.
 SPECIALISTS
 RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
 INSTALLATIONS

PHONE MORT MELNIK
 FOR FREE ESTIMATE

Studebaker Co.
 Aluminum Siding & Awnings
 Visit our showroom
 429-4383
 3720 E. William St. Rd.

RAY'S
MARKET

1520 N. 22nd 623 L. JASPER

Fresh Fancy Produce

Open Daily 8 till 7
 Fri.-Sat. 8 till 8
 Sunday 8 till 6

Wanda Smith - Bobby Robertson
 Sells
 at wholesale prices.

158 E. Main St. 426-5621

DEL'S AUTO
SALES

MARK GOODMAN, JR., OWNER
 PHONE 428-8481

623 L. JASPER
 OWNER
 PHONE 877-8011
 OFFICE 422-7332

Good Old...
MR. HERMAN WILSON
 PAINTING - HAULING

1719 North Broadway PHONE 422-2529

CITY MOTORS
 PRE-OWNED AUTOMOBILES
 LATE MODEL CADILLACS
 THE LOT WITH THE BEST IN DECATUR

PHONE 428-8011 110 EAST ELDORADO
 423-7788 DECATUR, ILLINOIS

SEWELL SUSLER, Tailor
 535 N. Water St.
 MEN! We fit any size -
 Large or Small!

Patronize
Our
Advertisers

YORK RADIO & TELEVISION CO.
 For all your stereo needs, 8-track units
 and tapes, Hi-fi equipment, Diamond
 needles for all phonographs.

500 NORTH BROADWAY

HELP
SOME-
BODY

LET ACTION ADS WORK FOR YOU \$6⁰⁰ per month



ALL THE
LUCK TO
YOU!

THE VOICE SERVING YOU



THE PAST YEAR

AND ANTICIPATING A



May it bring
a wealth of
happiness.

MORE MEANINGFUL NEW YEAR



MAY THE NEW
YEAR BRING
WORLD PEACE



157
READ "AS I SEE IT"

ON PAGE 2



The Voice

OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY



VOL. 2, No. 77

Thursday, December 9, 1971

PHONE 429-4627

DECATUR, ILL.

Price - 15¢

THE VOICE ENDORSES 5 FOR MACON LAND JUNIOR COLLEGE

HOPE NORMAN

PETE MACKO

CHARLIE JACKSON

RODGER BEAMAN

BERNARD WAGNER

THE VOICE HAS BEEN GROUNDED

After 30 years of driving the editor of THE VOICE Horace Livingston has been hit with three consecutive moving violations, consequently the state has clamed his driving licence. These are the only moving violations ever placed against me and they come at a time when THE VOICE is crackling down on police brutality, intimidation, and harrassment of black people in the Decatur area.

It comes at a time when the VOICE is dealing vigorously with the bigotry that exist within Decatur's educational system and school board.

I was informed by the state driver's license bureau to send in my license and \$8 then if

my job was dependent upon driving, I would be considered for a temporary license. I complied.

I also sent a letter stating my feelings about the circumstances around revocation of my drivers license. Now the state has sent another letter asking for \$8 and a license that they have had for over a week. Is this coincidence or conspiracy? Conspiracy to keep the truth off the streets of Decatur by using delaying tactics.

Walking or riding, THE VOICE will continue to publish and people in Decatur and across the nation will continue to be informed about many injustices that confront my people.



Happy Holiday



PC-53 121-2-91

By Horace G. Livingston Jr.

AS I SEE IT



A national consensus shows that over 80% of persons in prison today committed crimes of obtaining money. Of this 80%, 50% are black. The crimes are murder, robbery, grand theft, petty theft, pick pocket, till tampering, forgery, pimping and pandering, selling narcotics and many others. All these crimes are committed to obtain money to buy food, clothes, and shelter.

The crimes mostly petty in nature, are usually committed by the unemployed, the underemployed or disabled. The people, black and poor whites, are seeking to provide themselves with the bare essentials of life.

We are subjected to a luxurious society that advocates the acquiring of wealth as the means to happiness and prosperity; a society that incessantly displays a multitude of riches, yet denies us the means to acquire same. A society that makes every action a crime and yet only blacks and poor whites are subject to prosecution.

It would be interesting to see what percentage of black women and men would be sent to prison if they were not subjected to racism and discrimination, were granted a relevant education and an equal opportunity to prosper as other American citizens and were spared the psychological sabotage that has been directed upon their minds.

Why are blacks and poor whites destined to a life of servitude? Just as slaves were needed two hundred years ago to make an evil system successful, they are also needed today.

It's more than coincidence that 80% of today's prisoners started being rehabilitated at ages 11 or 12 and yet at age 35 or 40, no rehabilitation has taken place. This fact in itself attests to the belief that states will continue to maintain their state slave labor pools.

The abolishment of white racism would strongly jeopardize the perpetuation of slave labor (as it exist in our prisons). The abolishment of white racism would create a society of justice and opportunity for all. With this kind of society, most of the reasons for burglary, robbery, dope pushers, etc. would diminish and in some cases disappear. This would delete the slave labor pool from our midst and the blood suckers would have to pay honest wages for services rendered.

PRAY
FOR THE DEAD
and
FIGHT
LIKE
HELL
FOR THE LIVING.
MOTHER JONES
1902

PAROLEE CHARGES INJUSTICE

Lee Sutton, 200 block Longview Place was arrested September 27, 1971, in front of his house. He and three other young black men were charged with illegal possession of liquor. Lee was also charged with aggravated battery. Witnesses to the incident related the following story to THE VOICE.

The four men were sitting in an unworkable automobile in front of the Sutton apartment. Policemen arrived on the scene and questioned them about a suspect they were looking for. Unable to get any information the police left and went to a nearby apartment in search of the suspect. Returning to the Sutton auto the police told the men they were dissatisfied with the answers they gave. They told the four men to get out of the car. After getting out of the car, Lee Sutton walked toward his front door. The police grabbed him and he snatched away from them. At this point he was hit in the head with a flashlight and policemen proceeded to gang beat him.

Mr. Sutton had served 11 months of a penitentiary sentence and was released with two years parole. According to Mr. Sutton his parole was up July 18, 1971 two months before this incident. Mr. Sutton said his parole office, Paul North, had made repeated promises to send in his parole papers for release, but he never did. For the past 30 days, Lee's mother his lawyer and this writer have attempted to contact Mr. North but to avail. I finally made contact with Mr. North on Thursday Dec. 2, 1971 and questioned him as to the delay in securing release from parole for Mr. Sutton. He said, "I have been on vacation."

I would think Mr. North or someone with relegated power should be accessible to persons under their jurisdiction at all times.

All charges were dropped against Mr. Sutton except the aggravated battery and it was reduced to a misdemeanor. As a result of his parole papers not being processed on time, Lee Sutton is still being held in jail as a parole violator.

This is just another example of why prisons today are unproportionately filled with black men. These are the circumstances creating the Soledad and Attica situations.

JAYCEES ENDORSE 15

At a press conference held December 2, 1971, at the Ambassador Motor Inn, the Decatur Jaycees announced the endorsement of 15 candidates for the Board of Trustees for Maconland Junior College.

Dan Kelly, spokesman for the group said, "We have conducted interviews of the candidates for the Board of Trustees for Maconland Junior College using standardized review procedures have evaluated the results and have voted to recommend the following candidates to the voting public:

Clifford Allison	Donald Klisares
Gary Anderson	Ann Limerick
Dr. Bert Back	James Masey
Roger Beaman	Walter Morey
John Birk	Lemar Mosley
Dr. Raymond Ferre	Dr. Bernard Wagner
Charles Jackson	Robert Wood
Phyllis Johnson	

Mr. Kelly said, "Our review and evaluation was designed to find those candidates who possessed the highest degree of those characteristics which experienced Junior College administrators agree are necessary for an effective board member." "Those characteristics are:

1. Open-mindedness
2. Ability to make policy and refrain from taking an administrative stance.
3. Effective listening and communicative skill
4. Awareness of the task ahead."

A NEW EXPERIENCE IN RACE RELATIONS



A very unique weekly program for youth is taking place in the Frontiers International building in Mueller Park. Though still in the planning stages it is off to an enthusiastic start. This program is being sponsored by the recently formed ecumenical and interracial church, developed through the leadership of its minister, Rev. Peter M. Macko (this church group, by the way, conducts its worship and educational facilities now from the YMCA, convenes every Sunday morning from 9:00 - 12:00, with worship beginning at 11:00, and carries out other important phases of its "what's happening now" approach and mission in the homes of members).

The youth program at Mueller Park was first an idea--a dream-- in the minds and hearts of the young people of this new church who had the desire to strive for meaningful relationships and mutual projects among the black and white youth of Decatur and at the same time to help meet some real needs of younger youth. These young people and their adult advisor, Mrs. Phyllis Macko, sought the help and suggestions of other members and friends of the New Church and made application to Frontiers International for the use of their building every Tuesday evening. Mr. Fitzpatrick, president of Frontiers, met with the young people, shared insights and offered helpful advice. Other adult advisors who help regularly with this program are Mr. Paul Crutchfield, Mrs. Joan Abar, Mr. John Burns, Mrs. Hope Norman and Mr. Horace Livingston. Other interested people have offered special services to be utilized as the plans are further developed.



Approximately 20 black youth of the Mueller Park area have been very active in organizing and offering suggestions for the program. On Tuesday Dec. 7th, Sheila Crutchfield led the discussion and planning session from which the idea of a talent show developed. The talent show, to be announced later in THE VOICE, will provide a "fun way" to inform the Mueller Park Citizens of the forthcoming specialized opportunities to be offered boys and girls from ages 8 to 10 in the areas of creative art, music, recreation, and tutoring every Tuesday evening from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M.. The high school youth have reserved the time between 8:00 and 9:30 P.M. for their own discussion, recreation and other community projects.

Tuesday night, Nov. 30th, about 28 high school youth visited the art studio of Mr. Preston Jackson, black artist, musician and the instructor of art at Millikin University. Mr. Jackson's studio at 1054 West Decatur is open every night Monday through Friday, to any young person interested in art, and he has also agreed to help with the creative art to be offered in the Mueller Park Youth Program.

By Any Means Necessary



Fred Hampton

Photo by Brian Shannon

A CITIZENS' PROSECUTORS' DEFENSE FUND COMMITTEE has been set up to aid recently indicted Illinois State's Attorney Edward V. Hanrahan and 13 other policemen. They are modestly charged with obstructing justice even though they actually murdered Black Panther leaders Fred Hampton and Mark Clark.

This "defense committee" contains a number of leading figures in Chicago's labor movement. Some of them are: Louis Peick, an international trustee of the Teamsters union; Stephen Lamb, business manager of Local 13 of the Plumbers Union; and Thomas Nayder, president of the Chicago Building Trades Council.



George Jackson

LNS photo

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



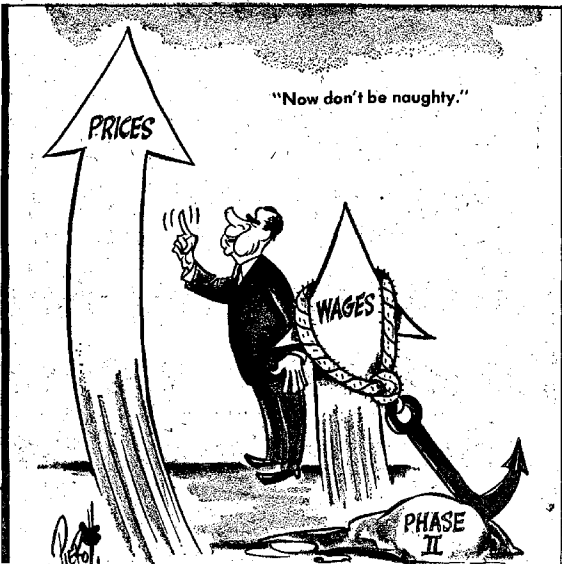
Sam Busey Dell Watson

Equal opportunity in employment is the motto of Goodyear stores, according to Jack Katzberg, manager of Decatur Stores. Mr. Katzberg said, "I judge a man on his ability to fill a position and race has nothing to do with a man's ability."

To substantiate his beliefs Mr. Katzberg had in his employee in the Decatur Goodyear Store, Nathaniel King, who was credit manager. King handled his duties in the Decatur store in such a fashion that he was transferred to a much larger store in Peoria, Illinois. He is credit manager at the Peoria store.

Decatur has two Goodyear stores. One located at 411 East William and the other at 3091 North Water. The Goodyear stores feature automobile tires and accessories as well as household appliances. Both stores have a service department. Service departments in both stores are managed by black men. Service manager at the William Street store is Dell Watson. Dell has been with the company for one year. He lives with his wife Sheila in the Greenwood Manor Apartments. Sam Busey is the service manager of the North Water Street Store. He lives with his wife and three children at 1550 North Broadway.

According to Mr. Katzberg, the door has only opened for these men. He said, "The company is willing to move them up as fast as qualifications permit."



BY POPULAR DEMAND

You Are Blowing Too D - - - Hard!



Approximately two years ago the VOICE ran this cartoon depicting the image of the Decatur School Board had created for a segment of our community. Since that time, the board with some new faces, has repeatedly alienated other segments of the community.

During this period of time, the demands by the public for copies of this cartoon have been so great that our supply has been exhausted. For this reason we are reprinting it so that all who desire will have a memo of this dark day in Decatur's history.

The board's first move, under the leadership of John Fick, was against black people. Now it is systematically cutting down those segments of the white community that dares to challenge its lust for power. Not only has this board enjoyed a tremendous amount of support from the citizenry, but they have been recipients of prejudicial decisions from a racist judiciary.

The sanity of a teacher has been challenged by the board because she chose to speak her mind at a private gathering concerning the school situation in Decatur. As a result parents at the gathering threatened to withdraw their children from the teacher's classroom. The principal refused to comply and assured the parents that their children were being instructed by one of the best teachers in the system. Yet the board took the initiative from the principal and scandalized the teacher's name.



"Say it with Flowers"

SVENDSEN FLORIST

2702 N. Broadway Phone 877-1767
Decatur, Ill. 62526



ADVISORY TEEN BOARD MEMBERS present a snappy appearance at the Decatur, Ill., store. The girls' outfits include white blouses, black vests, skirts in burgundy, black and white tweed. The fellows wear burgundy and white striped shirts, burgundy sweaters, and light gray pants with burgundy stripes. Representing Decatur's five high schools, are: (left to right) Johnnie Smith, Rose McBride, Cherie Wilson, Susie Carter, and Tom Holt.

—Barbara Kruttsinger

SEARS SPONSORS WINNIE THE POOH

Sear's Teen Board will be going with Winnie the Pooh to the hospitals. They will be talking with the boys and girls. They will also be singing songs for them. All of the students on the Teen Board are very talented. They will also help at the Pooh party on Sunday.

ITINERARY OF POOH'S VISIT TO DECATUR, ILL.—SEARS

Tues. 12/7/71 -- Arrives in Decatur, Ill.
 Wed. 12/8/71 -- Visit to Americana Child Development Center - 9:30 A.M.
 12/8/71 -- Visit to Children's Ward St. Mary's Hospital 3:00 P.M.
 Thur. 12/9/71 -- Visit to Decatur Memorial Hospital 2:00 P.M.
 Fri. 12/10/71 -- Visit to WAND-TV-ROMPER ROOM 8:30 P.M.
 Sat. 12/11/71 -- Visiting with Children in Sear's Children's Department 12-6 P.M.
 Sun. 12/12/71 -- POOH PARTY at Sear's - Santa will be there too! 1:00 P.M.

GOD WON'T DO IT ALONE YOU MUST HELP

**Decatur's Only Bank
 Open Saturday
 Afternoon Until 3 P.M.**

(10 Drive-In Windows Open Until 5 p.m.)

Member F.D.I.C.

NORTH TOWN BANK

333 E. Pershing Rd. Dial 877-6000

DELICIOUS FOOD
 SERVED DAILY



PROMPT COURTEOUS SERVICE

COMING TO DECATUR REAL SOON

HI CHAPPERAL

BAND

8:45 - 12:45

★ **TWO BARS**

★ **LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

Wed. - Fri. - Sat. - Sun.

Wed. Poor Boy Nite

35¢ ALL DRINKS - 8:30 - 9:30

764 E. ELDORADO

428-7874

FREE

\$50 WORTH
of TOYS

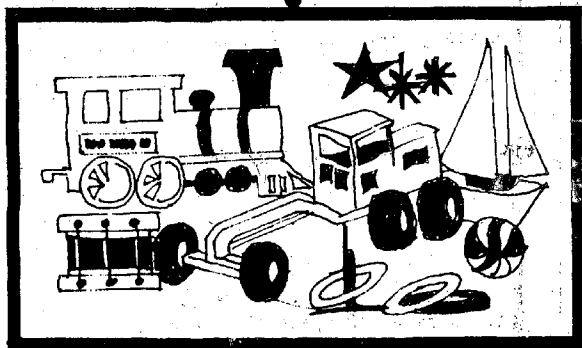
FREE

now thru
Dec. 22

now thru
Dec. 22

with the purchase of any
General Electric
major appliance
at \$200 or more *

TOYS SELECTED FROM
K'S MERCHANDISE MART



*
G.E. Washer or Dryer
G.E. Electric Range
G.E. Dishwasher
G.E. Refrigerator or Freezer
G.E. Television
G.E. Stereo

Drawing to be
held Dec. 22nd.

HOW

to be a great santa

Can you imagine a sale like this before Christmas when you need money more than ever.

When you need TV's and major appliances for gifting.

Yes—when you purchase any G.E. appliance, console TV or stereo—a value of \$200 or more you receive toys absolutely free. Make your own selection from a large stock of toys at downtown K's Merchandise Mart.

In addition to \$50 worth of free toys, buy famous G.E. appliances at special Holiday prices—you actually save two ways—free toys plus special prices on appliances.

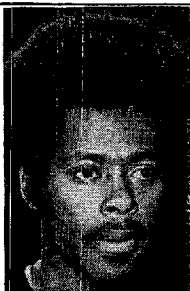
It's the best deal you will find at a time when money counts the most. This year you can be a Great Santa!

Come In And
REGISTER
For \$50.00 In
FREE TOYS
No Purchase
Necessary



411 E. WILLIAM
PH. 429-4459

BRING THIS AD IN AND SEE JACK, DICK, BOB OR LARRY.



J. P.'s SPORTS CORNER

High School basketball season is in full swing and young prep talent across the state are dedicating their blood, sweat, and often, tears to another successful year. During this season these athletes are priming themselves for the ultimate showdown--the state tournament.

It is definitely too early to even think of who the powerhouses in the tournament will be. This will be the case because when "tournament time" rolls around, regular season records don't mean a thing. The coveted honor of being recognized as a participant in this event blinds the youthful eyes to reason and desire and often time reckless abandon becomes the order of the day.

This year, however, a new twist to the Illinois State Tournament has been added. This year, as the Illinois High School Athletic Commission has decided, there will be two state tournaments and that means two state champions.

Schools this year have been divided into Class A, which is the larger schools; and Class AA, which has a somewhat smaller population. Each division will hold its own tournament at pre-determined locations.

Advocates of this system seem to think the rationale for this move is obvious. That this gives the smaller schools a better chance during the tournament, since they aren't competing with the larger schools that have a greater supply of students from which to select their teams. Advocates of the program point out the added revenues that will be taken in from the addition of more games to the tournament.

All these reasons are true and valid except there are some problems with this set-up. The most important, in my opinion, is who will be the real state champ. Because of the connotations of the words "large" and "small". Class A will be the most prestigious tournament, while Class AA will be given lesser value.

Another reason opposing this system is the apparent devaluation of the honor of becoming all-state. Obviously there will have to be Class A All-Staters and Class AA All-Staters. Consequently the members Class A will be more recognized and publicized.

It seems that the price to participate in a "watered-down" tournament is pretty high, with the smaller schools ending up as the losers.

RUBEN MURRELL

Garbage Disposal Service 963-2469



TPCC VISTA

THE TORRENCE PARK CITIZENS COMMITTEE, INC. HAS OPENINGS FOR "COMMUNITY" VISTA VOLUNTEERS TO WORK WITH THE TPCC IN THE AREAS OF 1) HEALTH AND 2) HOUSING.

"COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS" ARE PEOPLE FROM DECATUR WHO ARE TRAINED BY VISTA TO WORK IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITY.

VISTA'S WORK FOR A MINIMUM OF ONE YEAR AND A MAXIMUM OF TWO YEARS. THEY RECEIVE:

*\$200 A MONTH BASE PAY

*FULL MEDICAL BENEFITS

*\$600 A MONTH BONUS AT THE END OF THE YEAR

YOU MUST BE 18 YEARS OLD OR OLDER TO QUALIFY. THERE IS NO UPPER AGE LIMIT AND THERE ARE NO EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS. THE TPCC IS LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WITH A STRONG DESIRE TO WORK WITH POOR PEOPLE ON PROJECTS RELATING TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND COMMUNITY CONTROL.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR THIS PROGRAM SHOULD CONTACT:

FRED SPANNAUS
TPCC STAFF COORDINATOR
1250 EAST ORCHARD STREET
DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62521
PHONE: 428-1558

THE VOICE ENDORSES 5 FOR MACON LAND JUNIOR COLLEGE



HOPE NORMAN



CHARLIE JACKSON



Peter Macko

No doubt most of the candidates on the ticket for trustees at Maconland Junior College meet the criteria for just another junior college. But I think trustees for Maconland should possess qualities which would carry them one step beyond the necessary qualifications. A quality of sensitivity to the needs of the common man.

The expressed purpose of Junior Colleges is to benefit those persons not interested in a four year program. Most black people and low income white people fall into this category. To truly understand and administer to the needs of this segment, one must have a background of living in or dealing with this particular situation.

Taking these things into consideration, THE VOICE endorses the following five candidates: Hope Norman, Charly Jackson, Pete Macko, Bernie Waggoner, and Roger Beaman.

We endorse Mr. Jackson and Mr. Norman because along with the normal qualifications, they were born in and have constantly lived with deprivation. This enhances their ability to understand and address themselves to the needs of students in a junior college.

We endorse Rev. Peter Macko because of his basic concepts have been one of knowing and administering to the needs of all people in just recent months was afforded an opportunity to reassess himself and straighten out his priorities.

We endorse Dr. Bernard Wagner, whose education and background has kept him close to the poor and the needy.

We endorse Roger Beaman, employee of Millikin National Bank. I have personally witnessed Roger Beaman's commitment in other programs directed to the needs of common people.

Charlie Jackson: Community Relations Director for City of Decatur.

Hope Norman: State Farm Insurance claims adjuster

Peter Macko: Pastor of New Ecumenical and inter racial congregation.

Bernard Wagner: Clinical Psychologist at Adolph Meyer Zone Center (Administrator of PACE).

Roger Beaman: Millikin National Bank



Bernard Wagner

JASPER TELLS ALL..



Funny thang bout Chrismus time. Niggahs givn help ta peckawoods an peckawoods givn help to niggahs. Den dey give one nutha hell al da resss da yeah.

what makes a city a good place to live?

Abundant jobs. Adequate housing.
Good schools. All these things are important.
And something else. Call it civic pride.
Or a sense of community. Or concern
for one's neighbors.

Without people willing to work togeth.
to make things better for everybody,
no city can be a fit place in which to live.

Mail In Today

Mr. Editor,

Enclosed is my \$5.00 for a subscription
to THE VOICE

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

60 **THE VOICE** 60

1028 W. Forest

BLACK BEAUTIFUL

SPEECHLESS

Although curvaceous Carlotta Moore majors in speech at Coppin State College, the Baltimore beauty leaves the average dude speechless.



THE SOLEDAD BROTHERS DESPERATELY NEED CASH!

With the trial finally about to start, the Soledad Brothers Legal Defense team is on the verge of total bankruptcy. The outcome of the trial hangs in the balance. The Soledad Brothers have been under indictment since February 1970 (more than 18 months). The massive pre-trial assaults by the prosecution (changes of venue, gag rules, harassment, endless pre-trial hearings) have almost completely exhausted every penny raised by the defense.

The trial has already begun.

Defense attorneys expect it to last 5 months. Conservative estimates put the cost of the defense (expert witnesses, special investigators, travel expenses for witness interviews from all over the state, the bare necessities for supporting three attorneys and their staff during the trial, etc.) at \$125,000. The state will be spending many times this amount in its ruthless attempt to railroad the Soledad Brothers to the gas chamber. Your money is urgently needed to prevent a legal lynching. Please send your contribution immediately to:

THE SOLEDAD BROTHERS LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

510 North Third Street
San Jose, California 95112

I enclose _____ for the cause of justice in the Soledad Case.

Please send Soledad Button (75¢ minimum contribution)

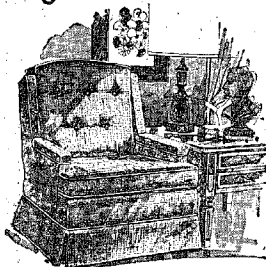
I would like to work for the Soledad Brothers in my community. Please send information.

Name _____

Address _____

Good's CHAIRS...CHAIRS...CHAIRS... Good's

LAYAWAY NOW FOR CHRISTMAS! \$5.00 WILL HOLD ANY CHAIR 'TIL CHRISTMAS

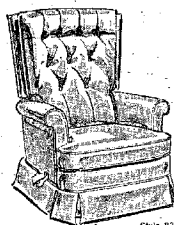


SWIVEL ROCKER \$149

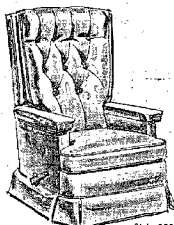


HIGH BACK
SPANISH
LOUNGE CHAIR

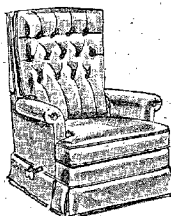
\$149



Style 839



Style 866



Style 871



"the Big"

La-Z-Boy® designers have styled a generous size chair that invites the big man to enjoy many hours of luxurious comfort without feeling cramped or hunched up. It features a taller back, that provides the right back support for proper posture when sitting or reclining.



"the Tall"

Give a tall man a chair that will fit him and you'll see a happy fellow. Specially designed for the well over 6-footers who desire high styling in a comfort chair. This La-Z-Boy® features a higher back, deeper seat and extended leg rest. No more tired legs or back when he has a TALL MAN chair by La-Z-Boy®.



"the Small"

Tastefully styled for the smaller man or woman, this comfort - designed La-Z-Boy® fits your every relaxing mood. Though smaller, this chair contains every comfort feature and all the beauty available in the big and tall styles.

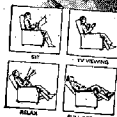
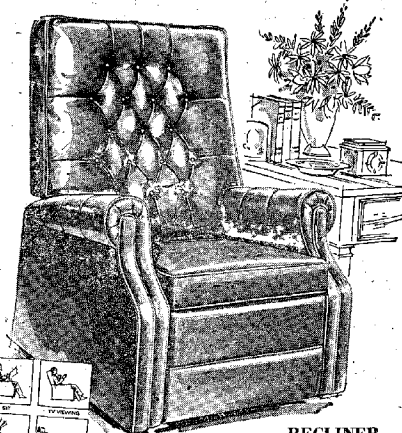


EARLY AMERICAN
SWIVEL ROCKER

100% Nylon cover. \$99

The RECLINA-ROCKER

FROM \$149.00



RECLINER
by
KROEHLER
\$99



Winged Early American, with wing back, roll arms, button tufted
100% Nylon cover. \$99



EARLY AMERICAN
100% Nylon
Cover \$109

HIGH BACK
EARLY AMERICAN
Choice of
Colors \$129
100% Nylon
Cover

EARLY AMERICAN
LOVE SEAT
Choice of
Colors \$199



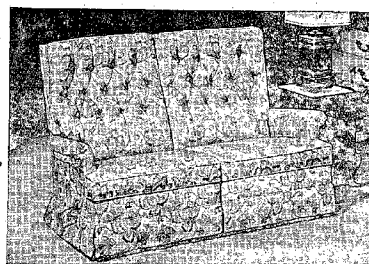
TIMELESS TRADITIONAL STYLING!
\$119

with fun
shaded skirt.
In naughtys... the
fabric-supported
wing.



ROCK AND RECLINE CARES AWAY!
\$119

Sit, rock, stretch and
recline in comfort.
In long-lasting
naughtys... the
fabric-supported
wing.



SOFETTE
Reclining Sofa
By
LA-Z-BOY

Togetherness is yours
with the Sofette. In-
dividual foot rests, in-
dependent reclining action. A
bed by night... the rocker
that doesn't look like a rocker.

\$369⁹⁵



BOSTON ROCKER
Solid rock maple
Black and Gold, or
Maple and Gold.
\$39



CATTAIL ROCKER
Cushioned Seat.
Solid rock maple.
\$59



BOSTON ROCKER
Upholstered, Solid
Rock Maple. \$89



BOSTON ROCKER
Cushioned, Solid
Rock Maple. \$89



Child's Windsor Rocker
Solid Rock
Maple \$29



Child's Boston Rocker
Decorated in Black
and Gold \$29

Good's

FRIDAY: 9:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m.
DAILY: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
MONDAY: Noon - 8:30 p.m.

FURNITURE & CARPETING

PHONE 429-2441

TERMS
90 Days the same as
cash. Budget terms
to fit your personal
requirements, on a
confidential basis
can be arranged.

237 N. MAIN

"Rock

Roll CHUCK BERRY

"Review"

7 pm

12 MID

DECEMBER

Tickets

York Radio

The Crystal Slip

Macon County Dry Goods

The Company

The Black & White Shop

O.E.O.

204 W. Main St

4 BANDS

3.00

ADVANCE

Dec 18

3.50 per

The Door

ARMONY

An Editorial: The Bussing Issue in the South

One of the most important developments in the South this fall was the fact that there were no violent outbreaks when bussing on a wide scale to achieve school desegregation began in many communities.

All through the spring and summer, Citizens Against Bussing (CAB) and similar groups were holding mass meetings and apparently laying the base for virulent new racist movements among white Southerners. Nixon confused the situation as much as possible with his statement against "bussing for the sake of bussing." George Wallace also made a lot of noise.

But when the schools opened, thousands of children, black and white, boarded busses and went to school. There were some picketlines in protest and a few more feeble meetings. But no mob scenes, no burned busses, no bombed schools, few successful boycotts for more than a day or two. It was as if a time bomb had fizzled.

What does it all mean? Not that people really like bussing. Most people, children and parents, don't. As is illustrated by an article on Nashville schools in this issue of the *Patriot*, many schools are in more confusion than ever—pupils transferring in and out, classes hard to organize. Participation in extracurricular activities is a problem for all students who must leave school on a bus as soon as classes end.

In some places, although not in Nashville, there are active organized movements in black communities against bussing. (See article on Greensboro, N.C. in September *Patriot*.) Any desegregation plan that succeeds in creating a racial ratio in every school proportionate to the black population of a city also succeeds in making blacks a minority in every

school. And in a racist society that's a problem. The depth of the problem was pointed up by the black student rebellions that swept parts of the South last year—and will probably spread this year.

School desegregation in the South has not created good school systems; it has not eliminated racism in education. In many ways, it has created new nightmares for black students. As has been documented in several authoritative studies it has been accompanied by elimination of black teachers and principals, by discriminatory pay and systematic discrimination within so-called integrated schools. (See January, 1971, *Patriot*.) Bussing is not likely to solve any of these problems.

School desegregation has failed partly because it was never really tried—from the moment local and national power structures began subverting the first Supreme Court school decision in 1954. But it has failed also because just mechanically mixing a few black and white people in a deeply racist society does not automatically solve the problem.

Racism is intertwined in the very base of a society built on the exploitation of man by man—and, until we begin to eliminate that exploitation and build a new society based on the needs of people, we are just picking at the edges of the problem.

As Lionel McIntyre, a black SCEF organizer in the Deep South, stated in the *Patriot* last February, more and more students, black and white, are beginning to see that the entire underpinning of our educational system must be attacked and changed. The question is whether we are going to have schools that are designed to develop the highest abilities of human beings—or to mass produce cogs for this nation's profit- and war-making machinery.

This conflict goes far back into our national history. Public education devel-

oped in this country because of pressures from working people—in the North by the early labor unions in the 19th century. In the South there were virtually no public schools until the period of Reconstruction, when freed slaves and some poor white people took over state governments for a time.

But from the beginning the people with economic power saw public schools as a means of control and set out to make them serve their own purposes. In the 1820's Horace Mann, known today as the "father of public education," told his peers that public schools would control "social unrest" among the lower classes. "What surer guaranty can the capitalist find for the security of his investments," he asked, "than is to be found in the sense of a community morally and intellectually enlightened?"

In a sense, this same basic conflict is evident in the struggle over school desegregation during the last 17 years. Constant pressure from black people and black organizations—combined with the pressures of the world situation—have made it necessary for the United States government to go through certain motions to appear to be eliminating racism from the schools. From the beginning, the ruling class moved in the most confusing and half-hearted way possible, and thus encouraged right-wing racists to feed on and encourage the fears of whites.

But when it became evident that those mob scenes of the 1950's and early 1960's were hampering further industrial development in the South, local power structures moved to stop them. That is why the right-wing groups did not have the support of the power structure in Nashville this fall—or in many other Southern communities.

The hope for the future, however, is

that when the chips were down they did not have the support of white working people either. Not the students and only a handful of their parents.

When one recalls the mobs in the streets in the 1950's to protest the tiniest amount of token desegregation, when one remembers, for example, that it was in Nashville that John Kasper rallied thousands with his racist cries in 1957, and a school was dynamited—it is evident that a qualitative change has taken place.

The simple fact is that, this time around, appeals to overt racism have not rallied the masses of Southern white people—and that's mostly poor and working people. They just haven't bought it.

Maybe it's because we in the South have all had a chance to watch at close hand for quite a while now as Wallace stood in the schoolhouse doors—and it didn't put any bread on anybody's table. Maybe it's because there are so many more pressing problems in people's lives—wages frozen low and prices frozen high; a war that goes on and on and ever-rising taxes to pay for it. Maybe it's because the ideas of those who said, over and over, that racism is no answer to the white Southerner's problems have finally changed the atmosphere.

Whatever it is, it is not the end of the struggle, but it may be a beginning. Perhaps it means that we in the South are finally approaching the time when we can move on to the basic problems about our schools—the problems that the black movement and its struggles have pointed up: the task of creating school systems that serve the needs of people instead of training them to make profits for the few.

If this is true, all the turmoil and confusion of the desegregation struggle, past and present, will be seen as a necessary step to reach this point.

—Anne Braden

Illegal aliens, not employers, hit by gov't

LOS ANGELES—The scene is a small factory. Workers are industriously operating machines, sorting, packing, performing other operations. Suddenly a worker gives a yell and dozens of men and women leap up, run out the back door, climb through windows, and duck into closets and other hiding places.

Uniformed men burst into the shop. They sprint after the fleeing workers, grab as many as they can, and herd them together. They are under arrest. Is this a raid on a heroin processing factory? A film about Nazi Germany? No, the scene was the Ramona Food Products Company near Los Angeles. The uniformed men were agents of the Immigration Department. They were looking for alien Mexican workers who had not cleared U.S. customs. On this particular raid, on Oct. 5, they seized 36 alleged illegal aliens. About 60 more, they said, escaped over a six-foot fence behind the plant.

While the raid put the spotlight on Romana Acosta Bañuelos, owner of the factory, and put a question mark on her appointment as U.S. Treasurer by President Nixon, it also cast light on the far more important question of Mexican nationals within the U.S. labor force.

Over 700,000 people of Mexican origin live in Los Angeles as permanent residents. It is estimated that another 300,000 have arrived from Mexico without going through U.S. Immigration procedures. These are the so-called "wetbacks" or "mojados," who are periodically rounded up and shipped back to Mexico without the formality of a court hearing or even legal counsel. The 36 workers arrested at the Ramona plant were immediately packed aboard buses headed for the Mexican border.

Last year, the Immigration Service rounded up 38,000 alleged illegal aliens in Los Angeles alone and 350,000 of varying nationalities (primarily

by Mexicans and other Latin Americans) throughout the country. An immigration official in Los Angeles told a reporter, "We have only 25 agents on duty in Los Angeles. . . . If we had 50 investigators, we would double our catch."

For hundreds of thousands of U.S. residents of Mexican origin, as well as Mexican nationals, fear of the immigration agent is as real as fear of the Gestapo was in Nazi Germany. On the street, in the plant, in bed during the early morning hours, a federal agent may seize the suspected alien.

The alleged alien is not protected by the right to bail or an impartial court trial once in the clutches of the Immigration Service. The burden of proof of innocence remains with the victim. There is provision for formal deportation procedures, but this means a stay in jail, an administrative hearing, and then a court-enforced order of deportation. If the alien returns within two years, he or she is subject to an automatic prison term.

Most Mexican nationals simply submit to summary expulsion from the country. This means being packed off to Mexico without any advance notice whatsoever. No time to pack, no chance to notify friends or family, and many times no opportunity to collect wages due them.

Many Mexican nationals who initially crossed the border without the formality of the Immigration Department have been living and working in the U.S. for years. They have married and raised children. If the Immigration Service determines that the parents are here "illegally," the children are also declared to be aliens and are subject to deportation.

Great economic hardships—the result of European and U.S. imperialist exploitation in Mexico—drive the Mexican worker to face clandestine travel, harassment, and the humiliation of arrest to work long hours at sweatshop wages in the U.S. With

wages as low as \$10 a week in some Mexican plants, the U.S. minimum wage of \$1.65 looks relatively good to the Mexican worker.

Why not go through normal immigration procedures? Here a series of hurdles loom before the impoverished Mexican.

Since 1968 the U.S. has imposed a quota of 120,000 immigrants from all countries in the Western hemisphere. To enter under Mexico's part of the quota, the immigrant must submit to careful screening. This means submitting birth certificates, affidavits of good health and character, etc. To obtain any of these documents from corrupt Mexican officials involves endless delay and bribes.

There is a provision for Mexicans to commute daily to jobs in U.S. border towns. These commuters are issued green cards valid only so long as the worker stays on that particular job. To obtain this, the Mexican must first line up the job and then go through all the red tape involved in getting the card.

Labor recruiters will help line up such jobs, for a fee. They will also arrange, or promise to arrange, jobs for Mexicans who cannot overcome the immigration hurdles. A worker can pay a so-called labor recruiter as much as \$500 to get safely across the border and to a waiting job. These recruiters have been notorious for collecting fees and then leaving the Mexican workers stranded.

It is no concern of the Los Angeles factory owner how the Mexican national arrived in Los Angeles—many times, packed like animals in trucks with hidden compartments. To an employer, the hungry Mexican is the ideal worker. Where else could they find a body of workers who will accept almost any wages offered, know nothing of wage-and-hour laws, would not dare to complain about gross violation of health and safety laws, and can be threatened with instant deporta-

tion at the first sign of insubordination? It is not surprising that many small sweatshops, particularly in the garment industry, hire mainly illegals and turn away applicants with resident status.

True, the bosses may be inconvenienced by raids, but not for long. It was reported that Bañuelos replaced her deported workers the very next day. Often the deported workers are able to make their way back to the same job within a week, according to immigration officials. Sometimes the boss is warned of a raid and hides the more "valuable" workers. Likewise it is not uncommon for bosses themselves to place a call to the Immigration Service to get rid of "troublemakers."

The factory owners have little to fear from a raid, even with recent legislation in California making it illegal to "knowingly" hire an illegal alien. The penalties, if they are convicted, are minor. Their real crime, paying sweatshop wages and violating every wage, hour, and safety law on the books, is of no concern to the Immigration Department.

No Justice Department or Labor Department officials ever descend on the plant to check the books, or to interview workers concerning violations of their rights. Instead, the burden of guilt is borne by the Mexican national who has been cruelly exploited and treated as a criminal outcast. This social stigma is all the more galling when it is realized that Mexican nationals have been a key component of the economy of the Southwest, both before and after the territory was ripped off from Mexico in 1848.

Mexican workers not only built the railroads, irrigated the farms, and harvested the crops for the Anglo invaders of the Southwest. They also taught the Easterners the techniques of farming arid land, which alone made possible the large-scale exploitation of the former Mexican provinces.

SCHWARTZ
Technique Company
6349 N. WATER ST.
OCCASION, ILLINOIS 62453

TERMS TO SUIT

3 ROOM OUTFITS
As low as **\$399.00**



RESERVE CASH
when you need it
CITIZENS GOLD™
checking account

MEMBER FDIC

CITIZENS

NATIONAL BANK

Transportation headache?



Faster than aspirin!

fehrenbach
PH. 877-4440
150 W. PERSHING
CHEVROLET DAILY
8 am. - 9 pm.



Loft
Candies

363 N. Water

Ph. 428-9274

MAKE THE HOLIDAYS A MEANINGFUL TIME

SICKLE-CELL ANEMIA—On Nov. 18-19, the Medical Society of the County of New York, the National Foundation-March of Dimes, and the Foundation for Research and Education in Sickle-Cell Disease held a symposium on sickle-cell anemia.

The disease primarily afflicts Black people, and is prevalent in Africa, Mediterranean countries, and Central and South America, among other areas. In this country, the disease afflicts one of every 400 African-Americans. Ten percent, or two million Blacks, possess the sickle-cell trait. According to an article on the symposium in the Nov. 20 New York Times, "The trait, or carrier state, exists when a person has just one sickle gene. . . . In the overwhelming majority of cases no health hazard exists for the person with sickle-cell trait, doctors emphasized at the symposium."

But the offspring of two people possessing the trait will have a one-out-of-four chance of developing the disease, or anemia. Thus, the anemia results from a double dose of the sickling gene. And when it develops, the victim dies, either in childhood or by the time he or she reaches middle age.

A double dose of the trait causes red blood cells to lose their normal circular shape and sickle, i.e., become knife-like. The sickling cells clog the small arteries, cutting off the oxygen the red blood cells carry to such organs as the kidney, lung, or brain.

The disease was largely ignored by doctors until Blacks began to make it an issue. President Nixon has allocated \$6-million to sickle-cell research and clinics. But this is a drop in the bucket. No known cure exists for the disease, but tests have been developed to determine whether a person has the disease or just the trait.

The trait is believed to be rooted in the African ancestry of Blacks. According to the Times article, "In recent decades, scientists have noted that the sickling trait in some unknown way interferes with the malarial parasite's ability to invade human red cells. Though patients with the sickling trait do get malaria, their chance of dying from the parasitic disease are less than that for someone who does not have sickle-cell trait."

Malaria is endemic to West Africa, the area from which most Blacks were kidnapped by European slavers.

On the other hand, this fact may explain why Europeans, lacking the trait, died in droves upon first contact with West Africa and parts of the Caribbean.

RHODESIANS SUPPRESS HISTORY—"It's a real puzzle for the proponents of apartheid, according to Tony Clifton and Ronald Legge of the Sunday Times of London. The Rhodesian National Tourist Board begs the question in its brochures, noting simply that 'the ruins are the subject of wonder, whoever their builders may have been.'"

This excerpt from a brief introduction, and the article by Clifton and Legge, are in the November issue of Atlas magazine. The article concerns the Zimbabwe ruins in Rhodesia. Ever since these ruins were discovered by European archaeologists in 1868, they have been the subject of controversy.

Clifton and Legge write that the ruins cover an area of about 60 acres. Their "most striking features are an elliptical enclosure in a valley with 30-foot stone walls known as the Temple, and a series of stone-walled enclosures on a granite outcrop known as the Acropolis. The ruins are so massive and exotic-looking that early explorers did not believe they could have been built by the ancestors of the simple black tribesmen they found in the area."

Early speculation had it that maybe Arabs, or Phoenicians, or maybe one of the lost tribes of Israel, built the civilization whose remains are now the ruins. But after beating around the bush for decades, the archaeologists have now come to the irrevocable and unavoidable conclusion that the builders were a Bantu-speaking people, i.e., Black Africans. The civilization, known as Zimbabwe, reached its zenith in the fifteenth century and was referred to by the Portuguese as the "Empire of Monomotapa."

These facts are now accepted by everyone—except the white settlers who presently run Rhodesia. The white settler government has officially shrouded the builders of the ruins in mystery and conjecture. For if the five million Africans now dominated by 240,000 whites had a glorious past, then what does that imply about the present and the future? One Rhodesian magazine opined, "If the claims (about black builders) were justified, there would be no opposition to a black takeover of the country. It is no accident that banned nationalist groups refer to Rhodesia as Zimbabwe." Thus, in order for the white government to uphold its right to rule forever over the Blacks, it must weave a mythology that Africans never governed themselves and never held power.

Hands off Bangla Dosh

Reports indicate that significant fighting has erupted inside Bangla Dosh between the West Pakistani occupation forces and the Mukti Bahini (Bangla Dosh liberation forces), which has been receiving material aid from India.

The struggle for self-determination by the people of Bangla Dosh is apparently growing stronger and becoming better organized. It is now able to put up a serious resistance to the genocidal slaughter waged against its country by the West Pakistani forces.

In the context of the rising civil war between Bangla Dosh and West Pakistan, the U.S. government is looking for some way to crush the revolutionary nationalist struggle of Bangla Dosh.

At first the Pentagon sent arms shipments to Yahya Khan. In face of public protest, the State Department announced that the shipments had been cut off. Later it was revealed that this was a lie; that shipments of arms were continuing surreptitiously. Once again it was announced they had been ended.

Now a more subtle play is being tried. The New York Times, voice of a powerful sector of the American ruling class, called for United Nations intervention in a Nov. 23 editorial. On the following day, the Times' top columnist, James Reston, again raised the demand for UN intervention. He called on the "Great Powers" of the Security Council—the U.S., Soviet Union, China, Britain and France—to force a settlement of the conflict.

The Times voices fear that a war between India and Pakistan could escalate, eventually involving the U.S.S.R., China and the U.S. Whatever truth there is in this, the real fear felt by ruling circles in the U.S. is that the mobilizations of the people of Bangla Dosh could escalate into a revolution. This could lead to the establishment of an independent Bangla Dosh and possibly spark a revolutionary upheaval in all of India.

If the UN intervened in Bangla Dosh, it would be to crush the Bangla struggle for self-determination, to carry out the interests of the main imperialist powers that control the UN. This role of the so-called UN "peace-keeping" forces was vividly illustrated in the Congo in 1961-64.

In the Congo in 1960, just as in Bangla Dosh last December, an election brought to power a nationalist party. In the Congo it was the Congolese National Movement, headed by Patrice Lumumba. A UN "peace-keeping" force, reinforced by white mercenaries financed by the U.S. and Belgium, succeeded in overturning the elected Lumumba government, murdering Lumumba, slaughtering thousands of his supporters, and setting up the pro-imperialist puppet government of Moise Tshombe.

Any UN intervention in the conflict in Bangla Dosh would undoubtedly resemble the UN intervention in the Congo; it would support the reactionary, pro-imperialist forces against the popular independence struggle.

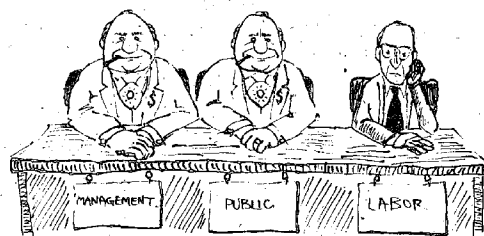
It should be added that the interests of the Bangla Dosh independence struggle would in no way be served by a war between India and Pakistan. The capitalist government of India doesn't care any more than the capitalist government of Pakistan about the right of Bangla Dosh to self-determination.

In fact, the fear of the effect of the Bangla Dosh struggle on India's Bengali minority is one of the reasons the Gandhi regime would like to gain leadership of the Bangla Dosh independence movement—in order to derail it.

What is needed is an international campaign of protest against the Pakistani occupation of Bangla Dosh, against the Pakistani terrorist campaign that has driven nine million refugees into India, against U.S. and Chinese arms shipments to Pakistan, and against any UN intervention in the conflict.

Only the East Bengali people—not the U.S., the U.S.S.R., China, Pakistan or India—have the right to determine the affairs of Bangla Dosh.

SOUTHERN COOPERATION ON THE PAY BOARD



I CAN SEE A FAMILY RESEMBLANCE IN THE FIRST TWO.

BUT THAT OTHER FELLOW DOESN'T LOOK AS IF HE BELONGS.

FREEDOM & JUSTICE, HOW ?

CHECK OUR LOT FIRST

Sherman's

100%

GUARANTEE

THE VW 100 PCT. GUARANTEE doesn't mean that you pay 50 pct. and we pay 50 pct.; but that we guarantee our cars 100 pct. unconditionally!

YOU WON'T FIND this guarantee anywhere you look unless you happen to look here.

'78 VW GHA convertible, 4 speed, radio, white tires, white with black roof.

'78 VW BUG, 4 speed, radio, air-conditioned, white tires, yellow with black interior.

'80 VW STATION WAGON, 7 passenger, 4 speed, radio, green with white top.

'80 VW BUG, 4 speed, radio, white tires, black with red interior.

'80 VW FASTBACK, automatic, radio, air-conditioned, dark green with white interior.

'80 VW SQUAREBACK, 4 speed, radio, white tires, beige with matching interior.

'80 VW BUG, 4 speed, chrome wheels, radio, sun roof, beige with matching interior.

SHERMAN VOLKSWAGEN, INC.

2190 E. PERSHING PH. 877-0711

Weekdays 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 9-5



VISIT

STANDARD

"Like A Junior Zoo"

- ★ Monkeys
- ★ Canaries
- ★ Tropical Fish
- ★ Hamsters
- ★ Talking Birds
- ★ Puppies
- ★ Rabbits
- ★ Guinea Pigs
- ★ Gerbels
- ★ Parakeets

SAVE 10%

Bring this ad and save 10% on any purchase this Saturday or Sunday PM in STANDARD'S PET STORE

STANDARD

919 E. Wood

Open Sunday P.M. too!

Wilmington Blacks Still Under Siege

By JIM GRANT

WILMINGTON, N.C.—Wilmington's black community has moved into its tenth month of struggle for survival against an alliance of racist public officials and far-right white vigilante groups.

Racial conflict flared up here again last month—and newspapers and wire services were quick to carry stories about ten white people shot while passing through the black community. They implied that black people were starting the trouble and doing all the shooting.

In fact, black people here have been in a virtual state of siege since last February. They have been using the only means possible to keep themselves from being wiped out.

Roots of the Struggle

The struggle began last December, when black students walked out of two local high schools. They were protesting mistreatment and injustice at the hands of white teachers.

In February, it turned into a war for survival, culminating in four days of running gun-battles between white racists and the students. Two persons lost their lives in that encounter.

Steve Mitchell, one of the school boycott leaders, was shot down by police. An elderly white man, Harvey Cumber, was killed when he started to fire his gun at a group of black youths who were defending their church.

Cumber's death spurred the Governor to send in the National Guard, which quickly moved in to occupy the black community.

The guard was removed about two weeks later, and the vigilantes began stepping up the harassment. In March a black youth, Clifton Eugene Wright, was killed by a shotgun blast as he answered the door of a neighbor and friend, Mrs. Mollie Hicks. Mrs. Hicks is one of the few adults who has consistently supported the movement. She has been described as "the most hated woman in Wilmington" and has suffered a number of reprisals.

In June A.D. Wright, a black service-man home on leave, was wounded and almost killed. In July, two white Pinkerton security guards were shot to death at Williston Junior High, a focal point for the student boycott.

Few days have gone by since February without white people coming into the black community, looking for trouble. In many cases, gunfire has been exchanged.

Leroy Gibson founded a paramilitary group called ROWP—Rights of White People—and has repeatedly urged local whites to take up arms and wipe out the black community.

Black students attending the newly integrated Hoggard and New Hanover high schools have been harassed and threatened by white men who carry their guns right onto the school grounds. Complaints to the police department have fallen on deaf ears. Yet a federal injunction keeps black activists off campus.

Most Recent Crisis

The latest upsurge began during a high-school ballgame, when ten police officers beat a black minister, fractured his skull, and then charged him with assaulting an officer. The minister is Roderick Kirby, assistant pastor of the First African Congregation of the Black Messiah. He had asked a policeman why he was arresting a 12-year-old black youth.

Several other fights broke out, and the



N.C. Governor ordered the National Guard into Wilmington last February. They left soon after—but, 10 months after, the black community is still under siege.

disturbance spilled over into the largely-black neighborhood around the stadium.

Later that night, several carloads of whites started shooting at the Hillcrest Housing Project. Young black men trying to defend their community were fired upon by police—but the fire was returned, and the police were routed.

The next night, white vigilantes riding up and down side streets of the black community shot indiscriminately at several black persons. Blacks returned the fire. Three police officers were shot when they tried to go to the aid of the whites. Their injuries were minor.

By midnight police and sheriff's deputies had cordoned off the area to keep whites from passing through and were conducting a house-to-house search for "militants with guns." They found no one.

The next morning, police in riot gear patrolled the black community. That night, two white-owned grocery stores were firebombed, and there were several gun battles between the police and black citizens.

White Response

In the meantime, the city fathers had declared a state of emergency and banned the use or transportation of all kinds of firearms. The order allowed police to search all "suspicious" vehicles. It was enforced on black people only, while whites drove around Wilmington with their guns openly in sight.

At this point, two Ku Klux Klan officials walked into police headquarters and offered 300 Klansmen as deputies to "help clean up this mess." Both were armed with pistols carried in belt holders in plain view.

At a rally, ROWP leader Leroy Gibson and 200 of his followers held a press conference. All were armed to the teeth; many had automatic weapons; and all were eager to show them to the press. Gibson said that he would hunt down the black militants "like rabbits," and threatened to hold a march—which never came off—through the black community.

Local officials are now telling outside news reporters that they "have had to assign half our staff to prevent these whites from causing trouble." Police Chief H.E. Williamson told the *New York Times* that ROWP is complicating efforts to halt the racial strife, and that he thinks it is more dangerous than the Ku Klux Klan.

But these same officials repeatedly refused to clamp a curfew on the city last February, although leaders of the black community said it was the only way to stop white terrorism. Police cars and trucks, carrying Klansmen patrolled the barricades outside the black community together. Police have made no efforts to find the white sniper who killed Clifton Eugene Wright. And law enforcement in Wilmington still follows a double standard.

A white man was killed in an exchange of fire with a black man, William McGhee. McGhee was bound over without bond on a charge of murder. Two white men arrested under identical circumstances, in a different case, were charged with manslaughter and given bail.

A local judge sentenced Roderick Kirby to 12 months in jail for assaulting an officer. Police arrested another movement leader, Ben Chavis, for driving without his car registration and kept him in jail overnight. The judge ordered Chavis to post bond and appear in court even though the state Motor Vehicles Dept. confirmed that his car was properly registered.

There has been one raid—in which three white men were arrested and a small arsenal of homemade weapons seized.

The weapons were stainless steel pipe guns which could withstand the explosion of a .12-gauge shotgun shell. They had an effective range of 25 yards or more. The three men were employed as pipe fitters and are associated with ROWP. They have been charged with violating a state law which bans weapons of mass death and destruction.

ROWP leader Leroy Gibson told reporters that his home has also been searched for weapons, and he criticized police for "searching whites and leaving blacks alone." Gibson said his organization has been investigating the deaths of the two Pinkerton guards last summer, and is "very close to making a citizens' arrest."

The emergency order has been lifted but can be reinstituted at any time by city officials. The officials are refusing to budge on the black students' demands which began the boycott some ten months ago.

The situation is critical in Wilmington. Money for legal fees is needed badly. Food and clothing for poor black families are in short supply. Contributions of canned food, clothing, and money may be sent to Brother Roderick Kirby, First African Congregation of the Black Messiah, 714 Castle St., Wilmington, N.C.

Telegrams and letters should be sent to Attorney General John Mitchell, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., asking him to investigate the situation in Wilmington. Representatives John Conyers (D-Mich.) and Ronald Dellums (D-Calif.) should also be written, asking the Black Congressional Caucus to investigate. Letters to them should be sent to the House office Building, Washington, D.C.



Mississippi officials took RNA members to jail in chains.

Attacks on RNA Continue

JACKSON, Miss.—Local, state, and federal officials are continuing their efforts to force the Republic of New Africa (RNA) out of Mississippi.

Eleven people arrested in the August 18 attack on RNA headquarters are still in jail; only three have been released. They were held in the notorious Parchman Prison for a while, but have been brought back to the Hinds County Jail in Jackson.

People who come to their defense are being arrested wholesale. For example, three Milwaukee men who came down to help were jailed for supposedly using stolen credit cards.

Black and white activists in Jackson have issued statements criticizing the officials for their harassment of the RNA. A group called Black Jacksonians for Justice described the indiscriminatory and arbitrary arrests of black people, and went on to say:

"Many black people have been told that the RNA is a violent group and they shot first at the police. Nothing could be further from the truth... The attack on

the RNA was, and is an attack on the entire black population in the country...

"It is time for us to let the white power structure know that we understand that what they did to the RNA they will do to any of us."

The group is demanding an investigation of "the relationship between the FBI and the Jackson Police Department to determine whether there was a conspiracy between the organizations to murder black individuals."

Don Miller, convener of the Greater Jackson Area Council (GIAC), a group of white activists, circulated a statement suggesting a citizens' inquiry into the RNA matter.

"If the federal and city decision-makers had not decided to use irresponsible tactics," Miller said, "it is quite likely there would have been no violence, no death, and no arrests other than the one person present for whom the police had a warrant... If there was a conspiracy... it seems more likely that the guilty are in the employ of city, county, or state than in the membership of the RNA."

ENJOY THE TRUE SPRIT OF CHRISTMAS

A black and white photograph of a group of approximately 15 people, including men, women, and children, posing together indoors. They are dressed in formal or semi-formal attire. The background is a patterned curtain.

Block club president Anne Simmons pointed out that this visit was one of many their club has been instrumental in arranging for their block youth.

138 N. Merchant St. Decatur, Illinois 62523
Phone 473-3667

A black and white portrait of a middle-aged man with receding hair, wearing glasses, a dark suit jacket, a light-colored shirt, and a patterned tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a textured, mottled gray.

I own and operate a small business at Boody,
Illinois.



Check our display for exciting gift items and their point values.

Phone 423-3635

BLACK CAUCUS EXPOSES MILITARY RACISM by Derrick Morrison

A three-day hearing sponsored by the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) on race relations in the U.S. military made it abundantly clear that the racist abuses and repression heaped upon Black GIs are growing, not lessening as claimed by the Pentagon.

Nathaniel Jones, general counsel for the NAACP who toured U.S. military bases in West Germany earlier this year, testified on the first day, Nov. 16, and pointed to "the administration of justice as the most intense problem."

He was quoted in the Nov. 17 *New York Times* as having observed that, "The feeling is widespread among Black troops . . . that they will not receive a fair shake because it is white controlled. The near total absence of Black judges and total absence of Black military lawyers reinforces this perception of the system."

Later on, according to the Dec. 2 *Jet*, Representative Shirley Chisholm's legal assistant, Thaddeus Garrett, just returned from Europe, revealed that in many cases Black GIs make up as much as 65 percent of the prison population, and account for as much as 83 percent of the GIs court-martialed each month. Black GIs in all of Europe number only 14 percent of U.S. forces there.

Frank Render, who was deputy assistant secretary of defense for civil rights until fired last August, cited the disparity between the Pentagon's "equal opportunity regulations" and the actual practice. Render, who was officially in charge of

investigating the racist abuses meted out to Black GIs, was fired because, in the words of one Defense Department official, the "rate of complaints about the maladministration of military justice had not decreased." This piece of logic is like blaming the one who yells "Fire!" for actually setting the blaze.

The hearings were chaired by Representative Chisholm (D-N.Y.) and Representative Ronald Dellums (D-Calif.). During the first day of the hearings, Dellums caused a stir in the Pentagon by releasing classified communications about an agreement between the Icelandic and U.S. governments to limit the number of Black troops stationed in Iceland.

Other members of the CBC reported on their one-day hearings held at military bases around the country Nov. 15 to gather materials for the Washington hearing. Base commanders grudgingly allowed them to record the grievances of Black GIs.

During the three-day hearing, testimony was also heard from a Black veteran who had organized GI groups in West Germany. A Black Army officer representing a group from Ft. Devens, Mass., told the CBC "time is running out."

At the end of the hearing, Dellums reported that the demands the CBC would try to implement called for federal court jurisdiction in the cases of victimized GIs, more Black officers, and an evaluation of military regulations, programs, and training procedures.

It's significant that the same day members of the CBC were out visiting various military installations, a struggle led by Black WACs (Women's Army Corps) erupted at Ft. McClellan, Ala. The Monday morning eruption capped a weekend of protests by Black WACs and GIs against abuses.

According to the Nov. 17 *New York Post*, a fight broke out between a Black GI and a white bus driver Saturday night, Nov. 13, on the base. This led to a spontaneous march by Black GIs and WACs through the base.

On Sunday, the protesting Blacks obtained a permit to march through the fort.

To dramatize the brass' inaction on demands they had submitted some time ago, about 60 Black WACs refused to don their uniforms to attend classes Monday morning. Instead, they headed to the football field to stage a protest meeting. Other WACs and GIs joined along the way.

The Nov. 16 *Washington Post* reports that the base commanding officer attempted to address the gathering. He ended up by ordering MPs and regular troops to arrest the Blacks. The *Post* says that of the 138 arrested, 68 were WACs. The Blacks are being held incommunicado and some have been flown to detention facilities at Ft. Bragg, N.C., and Ft. Benning, Ga. They will probably face frame-up charges of disorderly conduct, breach of the peace, and failure to obey an order.

There are no reports that members of the CBC went to Ft. McClellan to check out the situation.

CONTRACTS AWARDED

The General Services Administration (GSA) announced recently that Federal contracts valued at \$494,381 have been awarded to eight minority-owned firms. Six of the contracts were awarded under Section 8(a) of the Small Business Act and two were won through competitive bidding.

GSA Administrator Robert L. Kunzig, Chairman of the President's Federal Procurement Task Force on Minority Business Enterprise, said the largest contract, for \$195,045 was an 8(a) award to Central Components Corp. of Mercer Island, Wash., to provide wooden pallets and plywood boxes for GSA reserve stock.

Henry Roney, president of the black-owned firm, said the contract, "will make it possible for us to hire 32 new employees. With the new employees," he said, "we will be able to complete the work in six months."

Another 8(a) award in the amount of \$148,050 went to Impac Chemical Products, Inc., Chicago, to produce general purpose detergent. President of the black-owned company J.B. Watts said of the Federal contract, "this will give us the opportunity to further expose other similar products we are producing for the commercial market and help us expand our commercial business."

Santa Fe Night Patrol, a Mexican-American firm, will provide security services for several Federal installations in Santa Fe, N.M. under an \$88,244 8(a) award. Owner of the firm Aurelio Quintana said he plans to add 10 guards to the force to perform the contract.

Other 8(a) awards went to black-owned firms in Knoxville and Carthage, Tenn. and Detroit. Owners of the firms plan to hire new employees and expand operations becoming more competitive in the commercial sector as a result of the contracts.

Section 8(a) of the Small Business Act authorizes the Federal Government to negotiate contracts with socially and economically disadvantaged persons on a non-competitive basis to help their businesses become more viable enterprises. The contracts are awarded to the Small Business Administration which sublets them.

GSA has negotiated approximately 37 8(a) contracts, totaling \$1.6 million in fiscal year 1972. During fiscal year 1971, 236 contracts worth \$15.5 million were awarded by GSA under the program.

The two competitive awards went to firms in Seattle and Chicago. LAR-MAC Corp., a Spanish-American owned firm, will maintain and repair adding and calculating machines for Federal offices located in the Seattle area under a \$20,000 contract which runs through June 1972. The firm's president, Luis de Arias, said that most of his employees are Cuban refugees.

For the second year in a row Circle Maintenance Co., Chicago, bid successfully to provide snow removal service at the Federal Building. Samuel Long, owner of the black firm said, "the experience we have gained in bidding for this Government business has helped our company expand, hire four more employees and become better established in the Chicago area."

WICKES

SENSATIONAL VALUE!

AVAILABLE IN WHITE, GREEN AND BLUE SPRUCE

6 SCOTCH PINE

FOOT

WITH Quick-Shape CONSTRUCTION

\$10.99
10

Reg. \$24.99

THREE
DAYS
ONLY

Price For Tree Only

Style 446

SAVE 25%

Coupon Special
INDOOR-OUTDOOR TREE LIGHTS

ALL STYLES

25% OFF

Limit 2 Per Coupon

Coupon Valid Dec. 9, 10, 11

MUST HAVE
COUPONTHE
CHRISTMAS CENTER
AT

CREDIT AVAILABLE

WICKES

LUMBER and BUILDING
SUPPLIES CENTER

Fri. Eve's 'til 8 P.M.
Mon. thru Thurs. 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
Sat. 8 A.M. - 4 P.M.
Closed On Sunday
2803 N. 22nd, Decatur, Ph. 428-4447

0286-11 (SPEC)

Theater

Ain't Supposed To Die A Natural Death

Ain't Supposed To Die A Natural Death. Book, words and music by Melvin Van Peebles. Directed by Gilbert Moses. Produced by Eugene V. Wolsk, Charles Blackwell, Emanuel Azenberg and Robert Malina. Ambassador Theatre, New York.

Ain't Supposed To Die A Natural Death is subtitled "Tunes from Blackness." The "tunes" are 19 brief glimpses into the everyday lives of various people in virtually any Black community. And, as the title suggests, the tunes depict a life where it is next to impossible for Black people to die a natural death—or live a "natural" life. The setting for the play is "here" and the time is now.

This is Van Peebles' first presentation since his controversial film *Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song*. The great popularity of *Sweetback* and the recognition Van Peebles earned for it helped lay the groundwork for this Broadway piece. Van Peebles, though, has largely taken the material for it from an early record album of his by the same name.

In this collection, Van Peebles broadens and further elaborates his view of life in the Black community. His stark presentation is characteristically free of both falsely imposed white ideals and Black fantasies of genie-like omnipotence. Consequently, because of his straightforward approach, Van Peebles is often harshly berated by white and Black critics alike for having, in *Sweetback*, capriciously exaggerated Black life at best, and

having portrayed some kind of white man's nigger at worst. Despite these critics' disapproval of his style, Brother Van Peebles shows in *Ain't Supposed To Die A Natural Death* that he has no intention of presenting anything less than a truthful characterization of Black existence. This is evident from the opening scene to the last.

This work, which is often quite humorous, contains, among others, episodes depicting a wino begging for money, a pimp abusing his prostitute, cops accepting graft, a gambler at the fights, a Muslim selling his papers, a dude on junk, and a militant buying bullets. Especially good is Van Peebles' constant exposure of the supposed role of cops as "servants and protectors" of the people.

In one scene, which deals with that role while providing a revealing commentary on the political attitude of Black America, a sister is shown climbing steps to a balcony for a breath of fresh air and a white cop scrambles up to save her from leaping off: "Take your hands off me! I don't need your help. If I didn't leap when Medgar got your message, or Malcolm, or Martin Luther King, I ain't gon' leap now. Don't touch me. This is the coolest place in town."

Van Peebles also treats two other subjects sometimes overlooked by Black playwrights: the Black prisoner and the Black homosexual. In one scene, a prisoner who has killed his girlfriend for going out with another man is portrayed as a victim of warped society. In another, entitled "Tenth and Greenwich," a lesbian is seen calling out to her lover, who is in jail for the "infamous crime" of homosexual behavior, reassuring her that everything is OK.

A recurring theme throughout the work is the idea that behind virtually everything a Black person does, be it positive or "negative," there is a money-hungry whiteness above it all, checking it out. This point is graphically made throughout the play by an actor wearing a white mask standing on a ledge overlooking different scenes. The final scene brings this state of affairs to a fitting conclusion when all the actresses and actors symbolically break the chain of white domination by tearing down the strips of paper that tie the ledge where the white man is to each of the Black people on the stage below.

The work conveys a fairly thorough overview of Black life. However, while the spotlight is on

one scene, often other side stories are simultaneously occurring. This technique gives the viewer more than enough to look at, but it also makes it difficult to take in everything in one sitting.

The cast, all of whom have had prior TV, film or Broadway experience, are accomplished and talented. Each member plays her or his role as if they had known it "by heart."

—BAXTER SMITH



Barbara Alston and Ralph Wilcox in "Ain't Supposed To Die A Natural Death."

Photo by Bert Andrews



ROBO Car Wash

YOUR SATISFACTION IS OUR ONLY CONCERN

ROBO WASH \$1⁰⁰
with wax \$1²⁵

FREE with FILLUP
Your Savings Is \$1.00

3 FOR 1 PLAID STAMPS DAILY
ASK FOR FREE LITTER BAGS

PUMP OPEN HOURS
7 A.M. - 11 P.M. Daily
8 A.M. - 10 P.M. Sun.

WASH BAYS OPEN 24 HRS.

ROBO CAR WASH NO. 1

2970 N. MAIN
DECATUR, ILL.

ANOTHER GULF SERVICE TO YOU



SHOP 'TIL 9'00
TONIGHT



Perfumerie Duo
\$13.50



Eau de Toilette \$7



Dusting
Powder \$6.50

Nina Ricci fragrances
speak a language
of their own

Select her favorite Nina Ricci fragrance in soap, bath oil, dusting powder, cologne or perfume. Choose L'Air du Temps, Capricci or Coeur Joie. OTHER NINA RICCI \$2.50 to \$35.

Cosmetics . . . Street Floor

Sears has everything for Christmas



Yes, from Sears Junior Bazaar colors make all the difference

Put aside dull, drab sportswear. Jeans are now making it in double knit Acrilan® acrylic. Colored brightly in vibrant shades of yellow, green, red and navy. Topped off with Italian polyester ribbed turtle-necks in electric blue, yellow, green, red... even white and black. Jeans for Jr. sizes 5 to 13 \$10. Top S-M-L \$8

CHARGE IT on Sears Revolving Charge

Open every night until Christmas

SHOP AT SEARS
AND SAVE

Sears

130 N. Franklin St.
SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.



DEC. 11
VOTE
FOR

**Robert
J.
Wood**

**WE NEED
EXPERIENCE
NOW
FOR
DECATUR'S
JUNIOR
COLLEGE**

FIND WOOD NEAR BOTTOM OF THE BALLOT

O Black and Unknown Bards

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON

O black and unknown bards of long ago,
How came your lips to touch the sacred fire?
How, in your darkness, did you come to know
The power and beauty of the minstrel's lyre?
Who first from midst his bonds lifted his eyes?
Who first from out the still watch, lone and long,
Feeling the ancient faith of prophets rise
Within his dark-kept soul, burst into song?

Heart of what slave poured out such melody
As "Steal away to Jesus"? On its strains
His spirit must have nightly floated free,
Though still about his hands he felt his chains.
Who heard great "Jordan roll"? Whose starward eye
Saw chariot "swing low"? And who was he
That breathed that comforting, melodic sigh,
"Nobody knows de trouble I see"?

What merely living clod, what captive thing,
Could up toward God through all its darkness grope,
And find within its deadened heart to sing
These songs of sorrow, love and faith, and hope?
How did it catch that subtle undertone,
That note in music heard not with the ears?
How sound the elusive reed so seldom blown,
Which stirs the soul or melts the heart to tears.

Not that great German master in his dream
Of harmonies that thundered amongst the stars
At the creation, ever heard a theme
Nobler than "Go down, Moses." Mark its bars

How like a mighty trumpet-call they stir
The blood. Such are the notes that men have sung.
Going to valorous deeds; such tones there were
That helped make history when Time was young.

There is a wide, wide wonder in it all,
That from degraded rest and servile toil
The fiery spirit of the seer should call
These simple children of the sun and soil.
O black slave singers, gone, forgot, unfamed,
You—you alone, of all the long, long line
Of those who've sung untaught, unknown, unnamed,
Have stretched out upward, seeking the divine.

You sang not deeds of heroes or of kings;
No chant of bloody war, no exulting psalm
Of arms-won triumphs; but your humble strings
You touched in chord with music empyrean.
You sang far better than you knew; the songs
That for your listeners' hungry hearts sufficed
Still live,—but more than this to you belongs:
You sang a race from wood and stone to Christ.

PREACHER

IT IS A SAD FACT THAT THE
CHURCH HAS FALLEN BEHIND
THE TIMES! WE ELDER FOLK
HAVE LOST TOUCH.



THEREFORE... I PROPOSE TO BRING
THIS CHURCH INTO THE 20TH CENTURY.
SO THE FIRST THING WE MUST DO
IS TO GET IT TOGETHER... TOMORROW



THEN... WE MUST LOOK AROUND,
BROTHERS AND SISTERS... AND
"GET HIP TO THE HAPPENINGS!"



THEN... WE MUST STRETCH OUT
OUR SOULS, MY CHILDREN AND—
"GROOVE FOR THE PEOPLE!"



AND NOW THAT WE HAVE
"GOTTEN WITH IT"... I SHALL
NOW "DO MY THING!"



TRUST LIMERICK

FOR

TRUSTEE

MACONLAND JUNIOR COLLEGE

A QUALIFIED WOMAN

B-A. Radcliffe College M.S. Millikin U.
3 children in college now Argenta H.S. Librarian



"Education for tomorrow's job" December 11, 1971



MY PEOPLE

CHIEF
DAN GEORGE

My very good dear friends, was it only yesterday that men sailed around the moon and it is today they stand upon its barren surface? You and I marvel that men should travel so far and so fast, but if they have travelled far, then I farther. If they have travelled fast, then I faster. For I was born a thousand years ago, born in the culture of bows and arrows. Yet within the space of half a life time I was flown across the ages to the culture of the atom bomb; and from bows and arrows to atom bomb is a distance far beyond the moon.

I was born in an age that loved the things of nature and called it beautiful names like "Tseliswhat" instead of dried up names like "Burrard Inlet." I was born in an age where people loved the things of nature and spoke to it as if it has a soul. I can remember going up the north arm to Indian river with my dad when I was very small. I can remember him watching the sun light fires on Mt. Penany as it rose to its peak. I can remember him saying his thanks to it as he often did, saying the Indian word, "hey-mus-hey-shocum." And then the people came. More and more people came. Like a crushing, rushing wave they came, hurling the years aside and suddenly I found myself a young man in the midst of the 20th century.

I found myself and my people adrift in this new age, but not a part of it. Engulfed by its rushing tide but only as a captive eddy, round and round. On little reserves, on plots of land we floated in a kind of gray unreality, unsure of who we were or where we were going, uncertain of our grip in the present, weak in our hope for the future. And that is where we pretty well stand today.

I had a glimpse of something better than this. I knew my people when they lived the old way. I knew them when there was still a dignity in our lives, and a feeling of worth in our outlook. I knew them when there was unspoken confidence in the home, a certain knowledge of the path we walked upon. But we were living on the dying energy of a dying culture—a culture which was slowly losing its forward thrust.

I think it was the suddenness of it all that hurt us so. We did not have time to adjust to the startling

upheaval around us. We seemed to have lost what we had without a replacement of it. We did not have time to take this 20th-century progress and eat it little by little and digest it. It was forced feeding from the start, and our stomach turned sick.

Do you know what it is like to be without moorings? Do you know what it is like to be in a surrounding that is strange, and all around you, you see strange things? It depresses man, for man must live among the beautiful if his soul is to grow.

Do you know what it's like to have your race belittled, and to come to learn that you are only a burden to the country? Maybe we did not have the skills to make a meaningful contribution, but nobody would wait for us. We were shoved aside, because we were dumb and could not learn.

Do you know what it is like to be without pride in your race, in your family, pride and confidence in yourself? What is it like? You do not know. You have never tasted its bitterness.

I shall tell you what it is like. It is like not caring for tomorrow, because what does tomorrow matter? It is like having a reserve that looks like a junk yard, because the beauty of the soul is dead, and why should the soul express an external beauty that does not match it? It is like getting drunk, and for a few brief moments escaping from the ugly reality and feeling a sense of importance. It is most of all like awakening the next morning to the guilt of betrayal because the alcohol did not fill the emptiness, but only dug it deeper.

And now you hold out your hand and beckon me to come across the street. But how can I come? I am naked and ashamed. How can I come in dignity? I have no treasures, I have no gifts. What is there in my culture that you value? My poor treasures you can only scorn. Am I then to come as a beggar and receive all from your omnipotent hand?

No! Somehow I must wait. I must delay. I must find myself, I must find my treasure. Then I can say to my wife and family, "Listen: they are calling me; they need me. I must come." Then I can walk across the street and I will hold my head high for I can meet you as an equal. I will not scorn you for your demon gifts and you will not receive me in pity.

Pity I can do without. My manhood I cannot do without. I can only come as Chief Capalano came to Captain Vancouver: one sure of his authority, certain of his worth, master of his house, leader of his people.

I shall not come as a cringing object of your pity. I shall come in dignity, or I shall not come at all. And now you talk big words of integration. Does it really exist? Can we talk of integration until there is social integration? Unless there is integration in hearts and minds, you only have a physical presence and the walls are as high as the mountaintops. Come with me to the playgrounds of an integrated high school. See how ugly and flat the blacktop is. Now listen. The bell rings; it is recess time. The doors open, and the students pour out of the doors. Soon over there is a group of white students, and over there by the fence is a group of native students. But now look; the blacktop is no longer there.

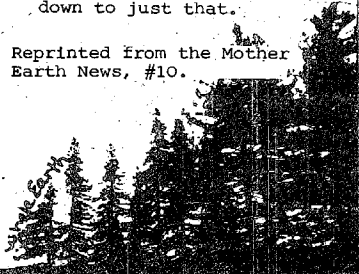
Mountain ranges rising, valleys falling and a great chasm is opening up between the two groups; yours and mine. And no one seems to be capable of crossing over. Why? God in heaven, why? Why?

I know what you must be saying, "Tell us, what do you want?" Yes, what do we want? We want first of all to be respected and to feel that we are people of worth. We want equal job opportunities for our students. We want guidance and counseling. We want to feel that we are a people of worth.

Let no one forget this: we are a people with special rights guaranteed to us by promises and treaties. We do not beg for these rights, nor do we thank you. We do not thank you because we paid for them. God help us, the price we paid was exorbitant. We paid for them with our culture, pride, and self respect. We paid; we paid, and we paid until we became a beaten race, poverty stricken and conquered. But you have been kind to listen to me, and I know that in your hearts you wish you could help.

I wonder if there is much you can do, and yet there is a lot you can do. When you meet my children in your classrooms, respect each one for what he is: a child of our Father in heaven and your brother. Maybe it boils down to just that.

Reprinted from the Mother Earth News, #10.



Myers Brothers Sale! Save \$26¹⁵

Men's Double Knit Sport Coats

Regularly 65⁰⁰

38⁸⁸

Just One of Many Styles
Sale! Values to \$75⁰⁰
Men's Famous Outerwear

29⁹⁹

- Styled with classic detailing
- Bush coats, Norfolk jackets, Western and Traditional
- Soft Pile Linings
- Corduroy --- the newest
- Sizes 36 to 46

Sale! Save 10⁰⁰
Men's Regular 27⁵⁰
Double Knit Slacks

17⁵⁰

- Machine Washable
 - Waist 30 to 42
 - Solid Color twill in Navy, Beige, Dark Brown, Grey, Black
- Men's Clothing, Third Floor*



Sale! Save 26⁰⁰

William Barry Suede Jackets

Zip in line
 Reg. \$85

\$59

Pile lined
 Reg. \$95

\$69

- For rugged outdoor look
- Richness of Suede
- Zip in liners and pile collars

Shop Friday Night 'til 9!

Men's Third Floor — Clothing & Outerwear

The author, a Los Angeles teacher, is an active supporter of the Ruchell Magee Defense Committee.

By JEFF COOPER

On Aug. 7, 1970, three Black San Quentin prisoners attempted to escape to freedom from the Marin County Courthouse. Four people died in the action that followed. Two of them—William Christmas and James McClain—were prisoners. The third was Jonathan Jackson, 17-year-old brother of recently slain George Jackson. The fourth to die was Judge Harold Haley, who was held as hostage in the escape attempt.

The surviving prisoner involved was Ruchell Magee.

Now Magee faces trial, along with Angela Davis who is charged with "complicity" in the escape attempt.

Since the case began, the capitalist press and even much of the left media have kept the spotlight on Angela Davis while Magee has received almost no publicity.

Furthermore, there is a sharp contrast between the image the media projects of Angela and that of Ruchell.

We see Angela pictured as the educated, cultured, beautiful Black woman who believes in communism.

Ruchell is pictured as an illiterate, ill-mannered, hardened criminal—an unmerciful killer.

Little mention is made of the fact that Ruchell spent the past eight years teaching himself state and federal law, and that he has used this knowledge to help other prisoners.

As Pat Gallyot of the San Francisco *Sun-Reporter* notes: "In truth Ruchell Magee represents the average Black man who has been the victim of one racist assault after another upon his person, his manhood, his legal and human rights. Ruchell is a symbol of revolt against a decadent society that systematically incarcerates poor, oppressed, non-white peoples in the 'slave camps' of America."

Ruchell Magee was born and grew up in Louisiana. He is now 32 and has been in prison for almost all of the past 16 years.

At 16, he allegedly raped a white woman and was convicted and sent to prison. He was released in 1962 and came to Los Angeles.

Seven months later, March 22, 1963, Magee and his cousin, Leroy Stewart, bought some marijuana from a Mr. Ben Brown. The latter then agreed to drive the two and a woman friend to a place nearby.

A scuffle ensued between Magee and Brown. Brown summoned police and had Magee and Stewart arrested for allegedly robbing him of \$10 and for "kidnapping" him. Magee, who denied the charges, was beaten so severely by the arresting officers that he spent the next five days in the Los Angeles County General Hospital.

What followed was a mockery of justice: a closed-door preliminary hearing; perjured testimony; a tortured confession; suppression of evidence and testimony favorable to the defendants; a racist, court-appointed public defender who told the jury Stewart and Magee pled guilty to the charges.

Ruchell, who flatly denied guilt, tried vainly to defend himself. The jury found him and his cousin guilty and sentenced them to life for kidnapping.

Magee has been fighting this fraudulent conviction for the past eight years and charges the state and the court with conspiracy to "enslave and murder" him. When first convicted, he immediately filed a notice of appeal, which was denied. He continually sought copies of his trial records but was denied access to them. In prison, he was beaten by officials, his mail was stopped and, for periods, he was held incommunicado.

In 1965, the court ordered a second trial and appointed another racist attorney to represent him. When Magee tried to make himself heard, he was beaten by bailiffs in the presence of the judge and courtroom spectators.

His "defense" attorney entered a plea of "guilty." Ruchell strenuously objected and told the jurors it was a "kangaroo court." The judge then ordered him bound and gagged. He was again found guilty and again sentenced to life imprisonment.

Now Magee is on trial for murder, kidnapping and conspiracy. As a previously convicted felon, if convicted on these new charges he faces a mandatory death sentence.

The prosecution says Magee murdered the hostage, Judge Haley. But who are the real murderers at Marin? The district attorney admits the first shots were fired into the escaping van by San Quentin guards. Is there any evidence that the escapees even fired back? If Judge Haley's body is exhumed, as the defense is seeking, will it show—as Magee maintains—that he was also the victim of a system that has absolutely no regard for human life? The Marin massacre is one more ex-

ample of how the ruling class, structurally and of necessity, used its news media to transfer the blame for initiating violence onto the victims.

The actions and thinking of Ruchell Magee are extremely important for the Black liberation movement. Over the past eight years, Magee has, on his own, researched, prepared and filed more than 1,000 valid writs and petitions on his own behalf and on the behalf of other prisoners. Many times he has won.

Conducts own defenses

In the present court action—the so-called Marin conspiracy—he has been successfully defending himself. He has gotten six judges disqualified, won a temporary suspension of pretrial hearings and has exposed the racism and blatant violations of federal law on the part of state and federal judges who have persistently denied him his constitutional right to file documents and defend himself.

Magee has challenged the legal system on its own terms and succeeded. He has done more for himself than any court-appointed or fee-motivated lawyer could or would do for him.

Magee's actions show that a person without formal training is capable of learning the law and applying it successfully in court.

And, what he has accomplished exposes the racist absurdity of testimony by prison officials that he is "illiterate" and/or a "moron."

Magee's actions have also brought out how the judicial process systematically discriminates against the poor, and especially against people of color. How then does this reflect on the American judicial system? Ruchell has made it clear that there is no equality before the law in America.

He is using his case to dramatize the conspiracy between the courts and prison system to silence the convicts who appeal to the law to protect their constitutional rights and who—when they can't get any redress of their grievances that way—are driven to acts of desperation, as for example, the Marin County Courthouse rebellion.

Magee is also important because his actions will have far-reaching effects for prisoners. He is raising legal and political issues. These include:

Does this judicial system, which discriminates against and sanctifies violence against the oppressed classes, have the right to try Ruchell, or any oppressed person?

Does Ruchell, or any prisoner who is illegally and fraudulently convicted and imprisoned, have the right to attempt to escape? If he does, the authorities would have no right to try him for his escape attempt at Marin.

Does a slave (Magee considers himself and other nonwhite prisoners as slaves) have the right to rise up and rebel? And, in responding to the cold-blooded murderers who seek to drown such rebellions in blood, does a slave have the right to kill? Ruchell is here fighting for a principle which, as he points out, has a precedent in U.S. history. He is referring to the important Supreme Court decision of 1841 in the Joseph Cinque case, where the court held that a slave has the right to use any means, including the taking of lives, to regain his lost freedom.

By petitioning to have his case removed to the federal courts, where he will presumably receive a fair trial, Magee is seeking to establish a de facto precedent so that other prisoners can use the same means to expose how judges, district attorneys, court-appointed lawyers, and grand juries have conspired against them in individual convictions.

Ruchell is asking: Why do prisons exist in contemporary society? He is challenging the widely accepted idea that it is in society's interest, as well as the convicts, to entrust the management of their lives to so-called professionals—psychologists, lawyers, prison administrators, etc.—none of whom have any personal stake in the prisoners' final fate, or any real comprehension of their social condition.

Ruchell is fighting to crack the public's image of convicts as a special breed of subhumans who should not be allowed to assert and defend their constitutional rights in the courts.

He is raising the issue of the inhuman treatment of prisoners and the public's tacit approval of this. It is this kind of passive attitude by society (largely the product of lack of information or media-spread misinformation) that enables prison authorities to continually commit atrocities against inmates and which enables them to murder countless prisoners without being punished. Ruchell is calling for the public to respond to these atrocities.

Finally, he believes that anyone who is serious about the oppression in this country must take a look at the people who are poor and forgotten—people like Ruchell Magee, the Soledad Brothers, the average Black, Chicano, Puerto Rican and

poor white who are at this moment suffering in prisons and jails across the country, people who no one knows about and who will remain anonymous until the masses awake to their needs.

Fortunately, Angela Davis has adequate funds for her defense and a nation-wide defense committee working in her behalf. Ruchell is going it almost alone. He has virtually no public financial support. The Ruchell Magee Defense Committee for Black Prisoners in Los Angeles desperately needs help. Send contributions, inquiries or requests for literature to P.O. Box 62200, Los Angeles, Calif. 90047. Phone (213) 758-6701. Please, do it today.

The Real Ruchell Magee



Classified Action Ads



**VANDER PLUYM
OIL CO.**
Distributor of
Gulf Oil Products

2700 N. Water John Vander Pluym, Owner

T.V. - Radio Repair

Curtis Brown

526 S. Webster 429-1232

Handling
of all kinds
L. Taylor

945 W. Cerro Gordo 423-8357

IDEAL DUPLICATING SERVICE

OFFSET PRINTING - COMPLETE TYPING SERVICE

MAILING SERVICE - BUSINESS FORMS

905 Central Heights

Phone 428-2222
Phone 423-8114

**Funeral
Flowers . .**
Beautifully Fresh . . . Thoroughly Arranged
Promptly Delivered
Betty & Bob's Flower Shop
230 W. Main • Betty Dent Dunn • 429-2491

Sure Fit Seat Cover Center

SEAT COVER SPECIALISTS

CONVERTIBLE TOPS

CUSTOM INTERIORS

G. LEASER

\$2.00 DISCOUNT With this coupon

FOR L. WOOD PHONE 420-5142 DECATUR, ILL.

IRVIN HARDWARE

Hardware - Paints - Electrical - Glass
- Plumbing

2220 East Wood St. 429-5253

RAILROAD SALVAGE

144 East Lombard . . . Decatur

(1 Block South of East Grand)

OPEN MON. & FRI. 9:30 P.M. - Sun. 10 AM to 3 PM

Bob's Lock Shop
701 E. Eldorado

You call - we'll come
429-2471 Mite 429-4587

Rays Market
800 N. Jasper
Rays Lumber & Produce

1620 N. 32nd 423-6913

Decatur Auto Body
Free Loan Cars
Quality Workmanship

735 E. Cerro Gordo 423-9707

Hopkins Grocery
Decatur's Oldest Grocer
Since 1909

1267 N. Calhoun 429-4304

45 Years Experience Free Estimates
STUB'S CITY AUTO BODY
COMPLETE AUTO REFINISHING
3830 E. William St. Road - Decatur
FREE LOAN CARS Phone 428-6653

Cloyd's Market

Your one stop center for
groceries.

876 W. Grand 429-5101



Broadway & North - Park Free

Jake Hughes
Lumber & Produce
Wholesale Prices

1841 Taylorville Rd. 429-4219

Browning Electrical Service
Commercial & Residential
Bonded & Insured

1516 N. Broadway 422-2186



Sharp
Watch & Jewelry Shop
Watch & Clock Repair

165 E. Prairie

Hazelrigg Plymouth
New & Used Cars
Open evenings.

2190 N. Oakland 877-7200

2848 N. OAKLAND
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

TRU TEMP 877-6918

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING CO. SPECIALISTS
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
INSTALLATIONS

PHONE MORT MELNIK
FOR FREE ESTIMATE

Studebaker Co.
Aluminum Siding & Awnings
Visit our showroom
429-4383
3720 E. William St. Rd.

**RAY'S
MARKET**

1628 N. 32ND

800 N. JASPER

Fresh Fancy Produce

Open Daily 8 till 7

Fri.-Sat. 8 till 8

Sunday 8 till 6

Winnie Smith- Bobby Thornton
Suits
at wholesale prices.

158 E. Main St. 428-5621

**DEL'S AUTO
SALES**

MADE McMANISSELL

SEB. 1962

PHONE 428-5451

701 W. ELDORADO ST.

DEL CAMPFIELD

OWNER

PHONE 877-8811

OFFICE 420-7328

Good Old . . .

MR. HERMAN WILSON

PAINTING - HAULING

1718 North Broadway PHONE 422-2629



CLARENCE H. PORTWOOD

CITY MOTORS

PRE-OWNED AUTOMOBILES

LATE MODEL CADILLAC

THE LOT WITH THE BEST IN DECATUR

PHONES 428-8011

423-7788

110 EAST ELDORADO

DECATUR, ILLINOIS

SEWELL SUSLER, Tailor

535 N. Water St.

MEN! We fit any size -

Large or Small!

Patronize

Our

Advertisers

YORK RADIO & TELEVISION CO.

For all your stereo needs, 8-track units
and tapes, Hi-fi equipment, Diamond
needles for all phonographs.

590 NORTH BROADWAY

LET ACTION ADS WORK FOR YOU \$6⁰⁰ per month

Ruling Class Uses Violence, Trickery As Mississippi Elections Approach

Mississippi is an example of how black people in the South have kept on struggling, through years of much violence and few victories. It is also a good case study of the tactics used against black people by federal, state, and county officials.

Federal Inaction Keeps Black People Powerless

The Justice Department has done nothing to enforce the Voting Rights Act since 1968. In fact, it is helping to sabotage advances made by black voters.

When the Voting Rights Act came up for renewal last year, the Justice Department asked Congress to drop Section 5—which gives the Attorney General the right to invalidate new laws in Deep South states if they would undercut black voting rights. It is a powerful tool.

Congress overruled the Administration and extended the entire act for five more years—but Atty. Gen. John Mitchell said he would not enforce Section 5 because he did not agree with it.

So, last September, Mitchell refused to wipe out the so-called "Evers Bill"—rushed through the Mississippi Legislature in 1968, when Charles Evers ran ahead of six white candidates to fill a vacant house seat. Mitchell's entire civil-rights staff said the bill was intended to defeat black candidates.

The bill has made it nearly impossible to elect blacks to office because it provides for a two-step general election, in which a candidate needs a majority of all votes cast to win. Under the previous system, it was only necessary to poll more than any other candidate. The operation of the "open primary" law was enjoined by a three-judge federal court in Biloxi in April, on the basis that the Justice Department should have decided whether the law was in violation of the Voting Rights Act.

When civil-rights lawyers and activists urged the Justice Department to investigate acts of terrorism by whites, the Nixon administration refused—after consulting with Southern senators Strom Thurmond and James Eastland. The latter is chairman of the powerful Judiciary Committee of the U.S. Senate.

Black activists charge that the Southern senators thus control the Justice Department's decisions about the South. They think Nixon is counting on the support of the Southern bloc to stay in power. Black political power would end many of the Southerners' political careers—so it is not hard to see why the Nixon administration is doing little or nothing to enforce voting laws and end the terror.

Thus, federal inaction has helped keep black people politically powerless in this state, even though 70 per cent of those eligible to vote have registered.

State Legislature: Gerrymandering and Redistricting

Since the Voting Rights Act was passed in 1965, the state legislature has considered 30 different bills to restrict black voting rights—and has passed 12.

The system has been rigged against black people through a series of gerrymandering and redistricting laws, laws which require at-large elections, and stiff regulations to keep black people off the ballot. Elective offices have been abolished altogether for some offices in counties with a large majority black population.

According to Frank Parker of the Lawyers Committee for Constitutional Rights Under Law, the legislature has concentrated its attack on the Delta and River counties, which have the most dense black population. These counties—traditionally economic and geographical units—were broken up and merged with other counties with majorities of whites, so that the black vote could not prevail. This technique came into wide use after a number of MFDP victories in the Delta area in 1966.

The Justice Department ruled that it was not discriminatory when Adams County was gerrymandered from two districts to five. Several black candidates were elected there in 1967, but under the new districting plan they will all lose their seats.

A black person will never be elected to the State Legislature from Hinds County (black population: 84,000) because the law requires at-large elections. The Lawyers Committee is challenging the Hinds County system before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Planned Confusion At the County Level

Black voters in 30 counties have been forced to register all over again. Leaders in those counties asked repeatedly for federal registrars to be sent in—but none arrived till September, and they have come to only three counties. They located themselves in white institutions, and generally did not advertise their presence.

In Tallahatchie, for example, the registrars moved into the offices of Charles Sullivan, a white candidate for governor who was later defeated. Sullivan's signs took up most of the space in the windows. Under those circumstances, not a single citizen registered in Tallahatchie for the first five days the registrars were on duty.

Marshall County has done its best to confuse voters by mailing out voting cards and announcing that people cannot vote without them. This is against the law—but most people don't know it.

Many black people in the county received several cards, directing them to different polling places, or they received none at all.

People who used to vote two miles down the road were sent to polling places 20 miles away; people living in the same house were sent to vote at opposite ends of the county. Some were paid to change their precinct location.

All of this has had the effect of confusing a large number of black voters—and in the meantime, county officials are going out and registering whites without even making them come into town to sign the registration book.

When black people protested to the

port of key people in the organizations of Senator Eastland and former governor Ross Barnett.

Attempts to cut black voting strength through re-registration backfired—and pushed black registration to new highs. And as Julian Bond and John Lewis, of the Voter Education Project in Atlanta, stumped the state urging people to register during the summer, white candidates turned up at the meetings to ask for black support.

Two men were gunned down in Belzoni 15 years ago, when they led a group of black people to register at the courthouse. This summer, the mayor welcomed Bond and Lewis.



Mrs. Hamer: "It's like the early sixties again, but maybe worse."

Justice Department, they were told they needed "proof" that the acts were intended to be discriminatory.

In spite of all this—315,770 black people are registered to vote, or 70 per cent of the black population. In five counties, black voters make up 60 per cent or more of the voters; in seven others, they are more than 50 per cent.

Some 250 black candidates are running and Aaron Henry, head of the state NAACP, predicts that 100 will be elected. The Race Relations Information Center in Nashville, Tenn., said that Evers' candidacy will probably bring more black people to the polls.

The white candidates' campaign rhetoric has moved a little toward middle ground. Those who made the traditional appeals to racism did not survive the primary.

But although the newspapers described the run-off between Lt. Gov. Charles Sullivan and former Jackson district attorney William Waller as a race between two "moderates," both men are considered racists by the black community. Waller, who won the run-off, benefited from considerable behind-the-scenes sup-

Violence on the Rise

Violence has been widely used. Students helping with the registration were threatened and shot at, in a number of places.

Activists across the state see a pattern in the killing of Jo Etha Collier in Drew this summer; the killing of three black men in Ecru, Sumner and Ruleville; police and FBI violence against the Republic of New Africa in Jackson; and harassment of black people in Jackson by the Highway Patrol.

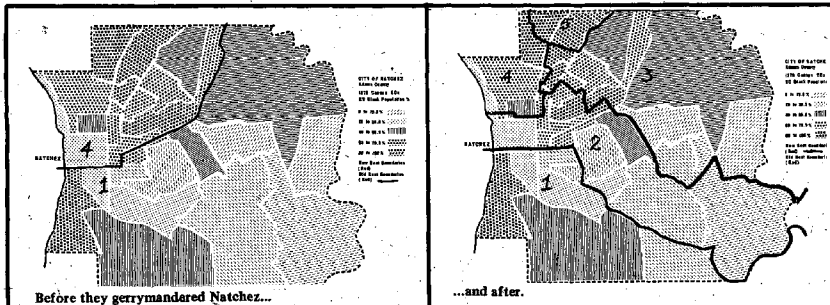
"People in power here are using fear, intimidation, lies, buying votes—everything they can think of—to win this election," says Henry Boyd, a black candidate in Marshall County. "The power structure seems to feel desperate. It's like when a chicken is dying—that's when it scratches the hardest."

"I've never seen the pressure they're putting on us now," Mrs. Hamer says. "It's like the early sixties again, but maybe worse."

Some of the worst brutality has occurred in Sunflower County, where Mrs. Hamer lives and Eastland has his 5,800-acre plantation. Political control by whites has been complete here—but black people make up 62 per cent of the population, and 80 per cent of them are registered to vote. This is the result of long years of work by the Hamers and others.

"We are at a turning point right now," Mrs. Hamer says. "We can't afford to lose; we've got to win."

"We are working with a few whites who aren't afraid to stand up. They catch particular hell when they associate with us—but they're getting tired of this crap, too. It's nothing new—people are catching hell from one end of the year to the next, here. And now we've got a chance to elect some black people to office. 'Mighty God, isn't that what they're afraid of?'"



YOU MUST HELP

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-¹²¹⁸³~~21283~~)

DATE: 12/15/71

FROM : SAC, SPRINGFIELD (157-1060) (P)

SUBJECT: "THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS
EM - BN

OO:SPRINGFIELD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/7/88 BY

Re Springfield letter to Bureau dated 11/16/71,
with enclosures.

Forwarded to the Bureau, under separate cover, by
Registered Mail, are ten copies each of the following issues
of "The Voice of the Black Community":

1. Volume 2, Issue Number 75, Saturday,
November 6, 1971;
2. Volume 2, Issue Number 76, Friday,
November 19, 1971.

Also enclosed for the Bureau are three copies of
an LHM providing an analysis of the contents of these publi-
cations.

A review of the publications reveals no anti-semetic
statements.

Springfield remains alert for various individuals,
organizations, and activities as they are described in periodic
issues of "The Voice of the Black Community". New cases are
opened and necessary action is taken regarding these where
warranted.

- 2 - Bureau (157-21283) (RM) (Enc. 3)
1 - Package (RM)
4 - Springfield (2-157-1060)
(1-157-1240)

WCM:ral
(7)

Copy to SS/ID/IDW
by routing slip for
☒ info ☐ action
date 1/4/72
by RMS/ogel
1-kerofed

ENCLOSURE

EXTRACT. SEC.



JAN 31 1972

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

b6
b7C

b6
b7C



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Springfield, Illinois 62702
December 15, 1971

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

" THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY " # [redacted]
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/2/88 BY [redacted]

b6
b7C

Reference is made to Springfield, Illinois,
memorandum dated November 16, 1971.

The Volume II, Number 75, Saturday, November 6, 1971 edition of "The Voice of the Black Community" contained an article on page 1, entitled " 'Get On Right Track', Gwyn Tells NAACP". This article pertained to a speech made by John Gwyn, the Illinois State President, NAACP, Peoria, Illinois, made in Decatur, Illinois. Gwyn dealt primarily with employment conditions in Decatur for blacks, and he said, " I saw so few blacks working in downtown Decatur I thought perhaps blacks were enjoying a holiday." Gwyn stressed the need to force Decatur businesses to hire blacks and he said if the local NAACP does not do the job, " I will bring in outside people to do it". He made disparaging remarks regarding the employment of blacks by the Decatur City Government. The article revealed Father Frank Westhoff, Springfield, Illinois, who also spoke at the NAACP gathering, discussed "The injustices of law enforcement in relation to minority people", and he further discussed an apparent low percentage of blacks employed in law enforcement.

An article on page 2 entitled "As I See It" written [redacted] pertained to the use of narcotics and its effect upon the community. [redacted] took the stand that the use of narcotics was being condoned by organized crime,

b6
b7C

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency: it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

157-12183-31

157-21283-3
ENCLOSURE

**"THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS**

who places officials in courts and in Government.

On page 2, an article entitled "Health Center Plans Discussed" revealed that a welfare rights group in Decatur plans to open a health center to be operated by the neighborhood in the Torrence Park area, Decatur, Illinois. This center is allegedly to be opened within a year.

III
An article on page 3, entitled "Students Co-Sponsor Speaker" revealed that Anne Gero, Educational Director, Planned Parenthood of Decatur, Illinois, had announced the visit to Decatur by Dr. Alan Guttmacher, allegedly the President of Planned Parenthood World-Population. He was cited as presently serving on President Nixon's Council for the study of the Population Growth in the American Future. He was scheduled to speak in Decatur on November 22, 1971, at Millikin University, Decatur. 211

An article on page 5, entitled "TPCC Vista Program Approved" revealed that the Torrence Park Citizens Committee, Vista Program had been approved by Federal authorities, and five individuals had received official invitations to go through nine days of intensive training in Chicago to work in the Vista Program. It was cited that the Vistas are to work to solve problems in housing and health in Decatur. It was cited that the Torrence Park citizens committee expects the new workers to act forcefully and boldly on behalf of the people of the area.

An article on page 10, entitled "Black Democrats Debate '72 Strategy" by Derrick Morrison, revealed that nationally known black leaders including a black caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives have all been involved in meetings and discussions in order to map out a purported plan regarding the 1972 strategy in the election campaign. The objective appears to be to elect black men to various offices in order to increase black political power. The individual writing the article takes the stand that the instrument necessary to serve the black people politically would be an independent black political party which would be beholden to no one or no force but Black people. 211

**"THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS**

An article on page 12, entitled "[redacted] defense compels state to reveal illegal evidence" was pertaining to the trial of [redacted] in the State of California. The article dealt with the pre-trial motions apparently made to suppress evidence which was charged to have been illegally obtained, and matters of publicity which would be damaging to the defendant. The article discussed a number of demonstrations in support of [redacted]

b6
b7C

An article on page 12, entitled "Soledad pretrial hearings held", which vilifies Judge Spiro Lee Vavuris for not allowing the clenched fist salute in the court and apparently for running a tight court room. The article takes the stand that tight court room procedures instituted in this matter amount to intimidation and would prejudice jurors into immediately concluding that the defendants were dangerous.

An article on page 13, entitled "Why Black Women Support the Abortion Struggle", relates the concept of abortion to various theories on the growth of black population and the success of revolution in the United States.

An article on page 15, entitled "Land, people called top black /aspects" is an article regarding a speech made by [redacted] Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois / and written by John D. Towns, Daily Egyptian Staff writer. [redacted] said, "Land and population are probably the two most important aspects of black Americans today", meaning the black Americans are crowded into a very small portion of the land in America. [redacted] said, "Slavery, exploitation and racism have been the primary forces impinging and molding the past and present conditions of black people in America."

b6
b7C

An article on page 20, entitled "By Any Means Necessary" dealt with an apparent racially balanced situation in Hancock County, Georgia. The article revealed that both the blacks and the whites were purchasing machine guns and shot up a number of buildings of each other in that County. The same article discussed a racially balanced situation in Wilmington, North Carolina, regarding a pair paramilitary racist organization known as the "Rights of White People (ROWP)", which allegedly is another organization similar to the Ku Klux Klan in conducting intimidation of black people in the area.

**"THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS**

An article on page 21, entitled "Interview with an activist in a prisoners union", reflected an interview of Earl Hunter and was written by Harry Ring, Los Angeles, California. The article reflected the formation of a prisoner's union allegedly taking place among black prisoners in various prisons in the United States and stated that "the formation of prisoners union reflects rising social consciousness and militancy among long oppressed prison inmates". The article cites a bill of rights for the prisoners union entitled "Bill of Rights of the Convicted Class" which allegedly was prepared by the unions executive board in consultation with its attorneys which is also based on the "Folsom Manifesto", a series of demands drawn up by prisoners during a 1969 protest action at Folsom Prison. The Bill of Rights is set forth in the article.

An article on page 24, entitled "Two Great Men: Dr. King and Mahatma Gandhi" likened the two individuals.

The "The Voice of the Black Community", Volume 2, Number 76, Friday, November 19, 1971, edition contained an article on page 1 entitled "Then We Can Give Thanks", saying black people could give thanks when black men are free, when democracy is not just a word, when prisoners are human beings, when opportunities exist for all, when the soldier come home, and when religion is exemplified.

An article on page 4, entitled "The Activities of [redacted] was in regard to [redacted] Decatur, Illinois, and a member of the Student Human Relations Commission. He was cited as being Chairman of the Torrence Park Youth Council, and he also was cited as working as youth coordinator for the Torrence Park Citizens Committee (TPCC). The Torrence Park Citizens Committee is an organization composed primarily of blacks and employees of Vista and other Federal Employees, financed by the Office of Economic Opportunity and active in Decatur allegedly for the purpose of coordinating the fight on poverty, the development of urban housing, and the distribution of food. [redacted] said, "My job in the Torrence Park area is to implement and coordinate racial programs in the area. He was cited as having scheduled dances and other social concerns in Decatur.

B. APPROX [redacted]

b6
b7C

**"THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS**

An article on page 5, entitled "What's Holding Up Torrence Park Urban Renewal", which condemned the delay on the part of Federal authorities to approve the Torrence Park urban Renewal Program, Decatur, for various reasons cited in the article.

An article on page 12, entitled "Prisoners Bill of Rights" which cited a "Bill of Rights of the Convicted Class", a program of the United Prisoners Union as prepared by the union's executive board, in consultation with its attorneys. The Bill of Rights was cited as being based essentially on the Folsom Manifesto, a series of demands drawn up by prisoners during a 1969 protest action at Folsom Prison in California. The article sets forth the Bill of Rights called "The Bill of Rights of the Convicted Class", and it was cited as to serve as the foundation upon which they shall be liberated.

An article on page 14, entitled "Vanishing Bald Eagle Symbol of Dying America?" cited the bald eagle as a vanishing species and whom wildlife experts say is a coward and a thief.

11/11 me fmk
An article on page 17, entitled "Freedom of the Press is guaranteed..." by Donna Allen, revealed that Martha Allen Honey and Mike Honey, husband and wife, spent two and three weeks in jail recently in defense of the freedom to print and distribute one's views ("see January Patriot and story on page 1, this issue"). The article contained major excerpts from a talk made by Martha Allen's mother, Donna Allen, approximately a year ago in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Donna Allen, a noted economist and peace leader, spoke on freedom of the press at an anti-war rally.

An article on page 20, entitled "Dissent voiced at Ill. AFL-CIO convention" revealed a convention was held in Springfield, Illinois, and the article, written by Paul Davidson, said the impact of the radicalization in the United States, especially the opposition to the southeast Asian war and to Nixon's attempt to make the workers pay for an even greater share of the war with the wage freeze, was reflected in the proceeding to the Illinois AFL-CIO State Convention held in Springfield, Illinois, on October 4 to October 8, 1971.

An article on page 21, entitled "Congress, courts unite behind Phase II" took the stand that Phase II was brought about through the near unanimity within the ruling class at this juncture to hold down the lines on wages and drive down



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Springfield, Illinois
January 21, 1972

"THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Reference is made to Springfield, Illinois,
memorandum dated December 15, 1971.

Volume II, Number 77 Edition of "The Voice of
the Black Community", Thursday, December 9, 1971, contained
an article on the first page entitled "The Voice Endorses
Five for Macon Land Junior College". This article was in
regard to the backing by the individuals responsible for
"The Voice of the Black Community" for five candidates
running in a local election in Decatur, Illinois, for the
Board of a new Macon Land Junior College. The five
individuals are [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] All are Decatur
residents and businessmen and professional individuals
employed in Decatur.

The edition contained an article on page 1
entitled "The Voice Has Been Grounded" revealing the
[REDACTED] Decatur, Illinois, had been
ticketed by the Decatur Police Department for three
consecutive moving violations in his vehicle, and con-
sequently had lost his drivers license. The article
takes the position that [REDACTED] was given the three
moving violations because of his activities in connection
with "The Voice" and civil rights activity in Decatur.

This document contains neither recommendations
nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI
and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not
to be distributed outside your agency.

157-12183-30
ENCLOSURE